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PALMERSTON IN MANCHESTER.

It would seem as if our acute Premier were determined to divert attention from his policy to himself, by just going off to Manchester as the said policy is at the height of perplexity. Foreign affairs are in a very involved state. We do not know whether we are not at this moment the sworn friends of Austria, while simultaneously conquering with liberty in Italy. We are a little dubious about the relation of France to Russia, and Russia wants us to invest in railways meant to carry troops to some future assault on Constantinople. In fact, foreign affairs are eminently unsatisfactory and confusing. So the world is naturally more than usually interested in the high personage who is supposed to "keep the key" of all such secrets, and wonders what inner meaning (if any) there is in his visit to the great capital of manufactures.

The Premier grows prosaic as he grows old, like humbler mortals. In his youth he was a wit and a swell; in his middle age he was a great schemer and bugbear of absolutists; in his old age he is found patronising mechanics' institutes. There is something of the movement of the age in all this; and it is affecting to see the old fellows fraternising with "Progress." What youth of the new generation now writes a "New Whig Guide?" The kind of thing is extinct; and instead of the youngsters imitating the old gentlemen, the old gentlemen imitate the youngsters. Palmerston at Manchester is really Charles the Fifth at his own funeral. He is a venerable person, doing honour to what is destined to extinguish his school.

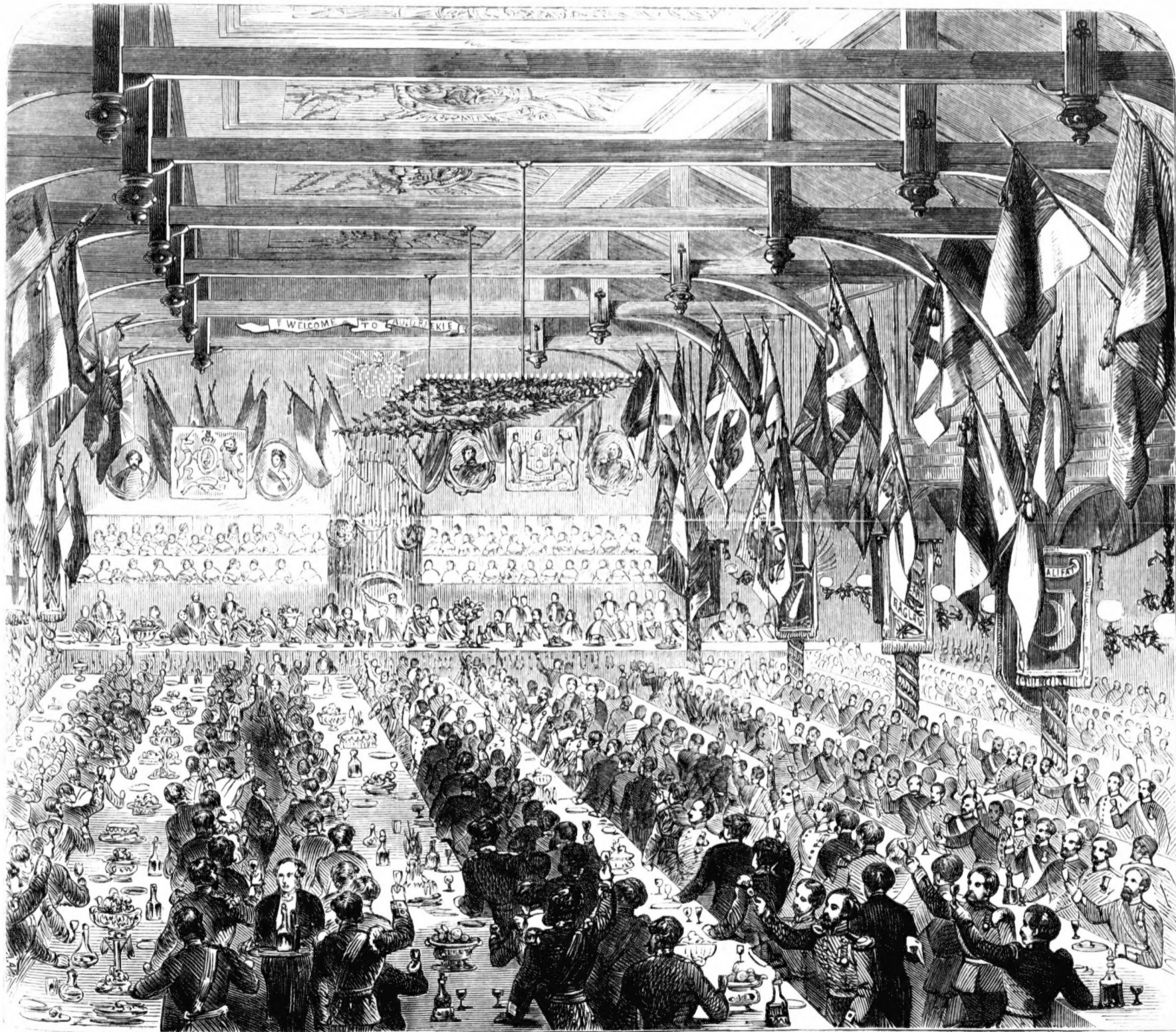
As we told our readers three weeks ago, the Viscount is essentially

an eighteenth-century man. Now, Manchester is essentially a nineteenth-century town. The Russian war was a check to Manchester, but only a check; it was a fitful rebound against it, but only a rebound. Already the old business is begun again. Money-making is becoming predominant; suffrage alterations are talked about; trade, mechanics, material inventions—all that activity which is so apt "to mistake comfort for civilisation"—is once more the ruling activity of the time. The public does not mind Bolgrad, Redschid Pacha, or Bomba, except as objects of a little titillating discussion. And as the heroes are growing stale, the Prime Minister finds it advisable to get up an interest in industry. He turns his spear into a pruning-hook—meaning to use the pruning-hook to catch Liberal votes. A strange revolution! For, of all statesmen, Palmerston has done the least for industrialism. Nobody ever heard of him in connection with suspension-bridges, the tallow trade, the glass duties, or barilla. When we thought of Pam in olden days, it was as the deviser of grand schemes somewhere on the other side of the Alps or Pyrenees. We thought of the map of Europe, not of the Rule of Three.

Is the Viscount converted in his old age into the regular steady-going friend of Cobden? Why, it is like heraldry on calico! He has long been the model aristocrat of many Liberal speculators of our acquaintance,—indeed, has been thought a little more contemptuous of *roturiers* than was quite justified by the alliances (at all events) of the Temples. Is he, we say, converted? We think this improbable. But then it is no matter, for your eighteenth-cen-

tury man always plumed himself on accommodating himself to facts. Lord Chesterfield tells his son, that, were he in Africa, he would be attentively courteous to a nigger; and if Palmerston visits Manchester, it is because Manchester is strong. Louis Napoleon goes to Compiègne to play at Louis Quatorze (with a slight difference in his company, to be sure); the King of Prussia visits the old castle of the Hohenzollerns, being sentimental; Palmerston goes to Manchester,—and each represents, in his visit, the nation which he governs and the policy which he has at heart.

The policy in the Prime Minister's case we take to be the very simple and obvious one of showing attention to influential powers, and associating himself in vague public opinion with "progress" and "enlightenment." We are to have a session of activity and usefulness, as the friends of Government say. This is highly desirable. The curse of the present Government has been hitherto, not only a want of useful measures at home, but a vexatious and meddling spirit abroad. If the Premier has now become utilitarian, we may expect duller times, but more work. Indeed, is it not time that the old humbug of Britain's emancipating the oppressed, &c., which has done him such a deal of good in his time, was fairly abandoned? It has served nobody but the Whigs. The Italians are as badly off as ever. Poor Cicero vacchìo, no doubt, had Minto's patronage to thank ultimately for his grave; as Austria had Palmerston's refusal to mediate, on a certain occasion, to thank for her retention of Lombardy. The present difficulty is going to end in smoke, or worse. Why not try a little reforming ourselves? Not that we



THE CRIMEAN BANQUET AT EDINBURGH, OCTOBER 31, 1856.

approve the mercenary policy which disclaims all intervention whatever. But, then, we cannot get either honest or able intervention; and we find, by experience, that the present substitute not only deprives us of a domestic policy, but causes us to be distrusted and disliked all over Europe. What is our bad, too, we are handicapped when we do intervene, and "done" by our allies, as effectually as we used to be before the peace of Utrecht.

The middle classes might profit by Palmerston's visit to Manchester, if they knew how. It is a homage to them; it is Major Pendennis toadying old Foker, of Foker and Co. One of the picked men of that bad school of aristocracy, which was raised by the town life of the last century, has had to take off his hat to the place despised by Brummel. Now, we know the middle class failings right well, and that servility is one of them. But by this time the middle class ought to have seen that everything knocks under to money and power, and that if they chose to make a right use of *themselves*, they might compel Ministers of this stamp to recognise their importance and represent their views, as they never have done yet. At present, the Minister is going to use them: they should consider whether it is not possible also that they should use him.

THE EDINBURGH CRIMEAN BANQUET.

THE banquet to the Crimean soldiers in Edinburgh, which took place in the Corn Exchange there on Friday evening, was a most brilliant and successful demonstration. The hall was decorated with a profusion of ornament, while with the brilliant uniforms of the guests was combined the still more attractive splendour of a large assemblage of ladies. The spectacle was altogether one of the most dazzling which the city of Edinburgh has seen for many a day. Behind the platform table was raised a huge military trophy, consisting in great part of spoils taken from our recent enemies, over which waved the flags of the gallant regiments invited to the banquet. Surrounding the whole was emblazoned the significant scroll, "Welcome to Auld Reekie." On either side were the ancient arms of Scotland and the heraldry of the city, as also the portraits of the allied Sovereigns. The walls and central pillars were almost concealed with flags and banners, the latter inscribed with the names of Crimean heroes. At the bottom of the hall were emblematic figures and illuminations, surmounted with a scroll bearing the name of "Florence Nightingale." In the compartments of the roof were armorial devices, representing the allied nations, the united kingdom, and the city of Edinburgh.

The number present considerably exceeded 2,000. Tables were set in the body of the hall for 1,420. The guests, consisting of the Crimean officers and soldiers of the Royal Artillery from Leith Fort, of the 5th Dragoon Guards from Piershill, and of the 34th Regiment from the Castle, as also Crimean pensioners and soldiers on furlough, numbered at least 1,100, and the seats appropriated for the citizens were greatly inadequate to meet the demand. The galleries on three sides of the hall were occupied by nearly 500 ladies, exhibiting a most brilliant spectacle of beauty and taste. Galleries were likewise erected between the pillars of the vestibule, which commanded a good view of the whole hall. These galleries, originally designed to accommodate soldiers' wives, were extended along the lower end of the hall, and were also crowded with ladies and gentlemen. In this part of the hall were also stationed the bands of the 5th Dragoon Guards and 34th Regiment. About 50 or 60 soldiers of these regiments having the day previous been discharged from the hospital, an additional banquet was prepared for them upstairs, after which they were introduced to the large hall, and seated below the ladies' galleries.

The chairman's table was placed across the upper end of the hall, and from it ten tables extended to the bottom. Each table accommodated about 140.

The chair was occupied by the Right Hon. the Lord Provost, Lord-Lieutenant of the city. On his right, sat the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, K.T.; Viscount Melville, commanding in North Britain; Captain Ramsay, R.N., C.B., late of the *Blenheim*; Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly, 34th Regiment; Sir George Clerk; Major Yelverton, Royal Artillery; M. de Bruant, French Consul; Rev. Dr. Robertson, and Mr. Cowan, M.P. On his Lordship's left, were Lord Gray of Kinfauns; Lieutenant-Colonel McMahon, 5th Dragoon Guards; Captain W. H. Hall, C.B., late of the *Hecla*; Lieutenant-Colonel Hamley, R.A.; Sir John McNeill, G.C.B., the Dean of Faculty; Major Nouri, Turkish Service; the Rev. Dr. Guthrie, and Mr. Black, M.P. This list, however, does not comprise half the names of the host of well-known men assembled at the banquet. The Lord Advocate and the Earl of Dalkeith were croupiers at the bottom of the hall.

Of the banquet itself, it will be enough to say that the guests were provided with a good substantial dinner. Each table, with its 140 diners, was served with six roasts of beef, six brisquets of beef, six gigots of mutton, six veal and chicken pies, twelve plum puddings, twelve pastries, twelve plates of cakes, twelve plates of biscuits, twelve plates of fruits, making in all a total supply of about 230 joints of meat, 80 pies, 300 puddings and tarts, 300 plates of cake and biscuits, and 150 dishes of fruit. Each guest had a pint bottle of Bass's pale ale and a pint of sherry set down to him.

These good things having been disposed of, toasting and speechmaking followed. The names of the Queen and the Royal family were received with that loyalty with which they are always greeted; then the toasts peculiar to the occasion came on.

The Earl of Dalkeith proposed "The Navy," remarking—

"It does not become us at this time, when peace has just been concluded, to indulge in vain-glorious boasting as to what we have done, and as to what we might have done. But, at the same time, it does become us to express our approval of the conduct of our brave defenders, and to return our thanks to those who have fought and endangered their lives for the sake of their country."

Captain Ramsay replied to this toast as follows:—

"We are aware that the navy did not occupy the high position in the late war which was taken by our gallant brethren of the sister service. We have no naval Alma, no naval Inkermann to refer to. All that was left for our gallant ships' companies to do, excepting those that were employed in the Crimea, and for a short time in the Baltic, was to blockade the enemy's ports, destroy their commerce and magazines, and to harass their coast. Permit me to allude to a small circumstance that occurred up the Baltic, which showed the readiness and enthusiasm of our men, and which gave to others as well as myself at that time great pleasure. At the commencement of the siege of Bomarsund, the four line-of-battle ships which were more specially employed in that service, a little after four in the morning, had landed large parties of men to drag the guns up to a position from which they might take the enemy's forts. These men had got their breakfast at four in the morning, and were employed in dragging up their guns till half-past three in the afternoon, when they had arrived at the position in which they were to remain for the night. The men's dinners in the meantime had been prepared, and the grog mixed (a laugh), when a message came from Sir C. Napier, commanding-in-chief, stating that the *Penelope* steam-frigate had got ashore under the batteries, and that very probably the line-of-battle ships would have to go in to support her, and requesting that the men should return inmediately to their ships. Directly the order was given the grog and dinner were all thrown out, and a general race was made for about three miles for the boats. I thought then, and think now, that it was a great pity that these men could not have been indulged in a general action."

Probably we are most of us of the same opinion. But as no less a personage than the Lord Advocate is on his legs, we cannot now discuss that subject. The Lord Advocate toasts the "British Army," thus concluding a most eloquent speech:—

"War, no doubt, is a brilliant though bloody thing; and we look to our gallant defenders with the admiration which romance throws on their profession, as well as with that which their gallant deeds and high hearts deserve. But, after all, the pathway of war, however bedecked it may be with laurel, is not an object of admiration unless it be the avenue of peace. Peace has now come, and now is the time to remember those by whom it has been obtained. Now is the time for us—the civilians—who have gone about our daily avocations in peace and protection, while our friends were breasting danger and braving death afar off—now is the time for us to show that we truly remember the British army and the British soldier—to dedicate with heart, and thought, and voice, the bumper which I now propose, and to show that we remember that he is our protection in the day and hour of danger."

Viscount Melville responded, highly lauding the discipline of the army. The Lord Provost then proposed the toast of the evening—"Our Gallant Guests." He said:—

"I cannot attempt to give adequate expression to the gratitude and admiration

entertained by you all to those men now amongst us, whose undaunted prowess has been so successfully brought to the contest which has so recently come to a close. During the progress of the war, the attention of their countrymen was constantly turned to those who had gone forth to wage a war of freedom and not of independence. Each new triumph of their arms excited new joy and surprised admiration. Amongst the most brilliant of these were the deeds of our gallant hosts, which are written indelibly in the annals of war and will never be forgotten. There is present this evening Lieutenant-Colonel Hamley, the able and accomplished historian of the war, the author of the campaign of Sebastopol, whose personal daring was evinced by his having had his horse shot under him, first at Alma and again at Inkermann. Without sentence and personal heroism they could have won 1,500 were opposed to 8,000, and again, 11,000 to 6,000. We have as our guests the 5th Dragoon Guards, whose deeds of valour have rendered Balaklava immortal. Balaklava and the Redan will tell at all times the devotion of our army, and the promptitude with which the troops of these kingdoms are ever ready to rush to certain death in order to maintain the honour of their country. They tell of the special and devoted heroism of the 34th Regiment, whose deeds of daring reflect lustre on their regiment and their country. The advanced post occupied by them was one of peculiar danger, and was nobly defended. Their heroism and valour were conspicuous in the trenches, and especially while engaged in attacking and possessing themselves of the rifle pits and quarries over against Sebastopol, and tenaciously retaining them, notwithstanding the most desperate attempts of the foe to regain them. Once within our grasp, they were firmly held, and no effort of the enemy availed to make them his own. The heroism and endurance of the soldiers have been such as to make the campaign peculiarly a soldiers' struggle. They were opposed by obstacles, which at one time seemed so great as to require power more than human to overcome them. The natural strength of his position, chosen by our gigantic foe as the stronghold of his power, and the scientific skill displayed by him in its defence, together with his vast resources, rendered success a work of almost superhuman exertion. Here are officers and soldiers now present, who distinguished themselves during the late war, whose names I wish I could only but mention, but I forbear. The example of the Royal Duke, now at the head of the army, was not more conspicuous than was the personal prowess of men of every rank in the army. The same prowess has been shown by the navy whenever an opportunity was afforded them of showing their courage. Of this Bomarsund and the Sea of Azoff afford sufficient proof, and more would have been given if the harbour of Sebastopol had not contained the Russian fleet drowned in its waters. But the obstacles to success in our recent struggle have been overcome by the toils and the daring of our brave countrymen, and the result, we trust, has been a secure and lasting peace. Meanwhile the courage displayed by them furnishes an additional testimony to the world that there are no hardships too severe, no privations too great for our brave defenders to endure, in order to maintain the honour of their country. They prove, too, that no superiority of force, however vast on the part of the foe, will deter our army from implicitly obeying the orders of their commander. I now take leave, in name of the inhabitants of this city, to offer to our guests a cordial welcome of their veterans from the scene of their exploits; and again I ask you to dedicate this toast to them in token of our renewed admiration of their heroism and dauntless courage."

The toast was responded to with great enthusiasm, the band playing—"See the Conquering Hero Comes!"

Colonel McMahon, Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly, and Lieutenant-Colonel Hamley responded, the latter remarking:—

"For the first time in our memories the British soldier is in something like his right position. Times have changed for him. If, a few years ago, it had been proposed to give a banquet in this good town of yours, graced with the presence of the nobles of Scotland, the magnates of your city, and by those charms that lend the scene peculiar lustre, and if further it had been proposed that the guests to be so honoured should be a portion of her Majesty's troops, I think the proposal would have been received with something more than surprise. All honour, then, to the enemy who has given to our troops the opportunity to show what stuff they are made of—honour to you who so cordially recognise our exertions. Every soldier must know henceforth that he has a new and elevated character to sustain—that he is not only expected to be formidable as a soldier, but respectable as a man. In a country where social distinctions are so rigidly preserved, there may appear something novel and strange in men like those who compose the bulk of our troops sitting down, as we have of late seen them sitting down, with nobles and princes. But to those who have seen the soldier in fight all sense of incongruity is lost. They can tell you, as I tell you, that there are many men now present of humble birth and rank, but who bear in their breasts the spirit of some ancient knight, a mirror of chivalry—men who have passed through months of suffering and deadly peril without fear and without reproach. I know not what impression the events of the campaign may have left on other minds, but when I recall them there are three which rise up in my mind preeminent in splendour, and these are the attack of the Russian batteries at Alma by the English brigades, the capture of the Mameluk by the French, and the onset of our heavy brigade. Considered merely as spectacles, they were as brilliant as ever met the eye of a soldier, and when I think of them they rise in all the gorgeous colours of a picture by some great master. I think we owe to our enterprising to-night a special debt of gratitude for the large space allotted to our fair countrywomen. It would ill become any Crimean soldier to forget that in the time of our direst necessities they gave us not only their tears and their wishes, but more substantial aid. I do not now allude to the fair sisterhood who went out to the Crimea, and to whose honour one of the toasts of the evening is specially appropriated. Aspeak of those who helped us at home. Many a heart now cold for ever owed its latest warmth to the work of their hands—many a one (mine among the number) still beats gratefully to acknowledge the benefit. Every soldier values above almost all other possessions his Crimean medal, but there are rewards brighter than medals and dearer than ribands, and I will add clasp that we covet even more than those of Alma and Inkermann. To earn their applause was our chief stimulus to have earned it repays us for all the scenes of blood and peril through which we have passed—and in all future campaigns as in the past one the soldier will look for his last and best rewards in your welcome."

The Earl of Elgin then came forward and proposed the next toast—"Our Allies." He passed a high eulogium on the Allied forces who were engaged in the late war, and attributed to them much of the success which attended us. He spoke of the end which was in view when we entered on the war, and the kindness which was shown to our troops by them. He made special mention of the Emperor of the French, as also the King of Sardinia. He referred to the enmity which at one time existed between this country and France; and now that they were allied with that illustrious monarch, he trusted they would drink a bumper to "Our Allies" with the accustomed enthusiasm.

The toast was drunk accordingly with great enthusiasm. M. de Bruant and Major Nouri returned thanks for their respective countries in a few words, both expressing the deep feeling of gratitude which they felt for the manner in which the toast had been proposed.

The Dean of Faculty then rose and proposed the "Memory of those who fell in the late war." His speech, which we are compelled to say was a great deal more solemn than sensible, we have not space for: the toast was drunk in reverential silence.

Sir John McNeill, who was received with loud applause, in proposing "Miss Florence Nightingale," spoke as follows:—

"If we would justly estimate our special obligations to the men who fought for the freedom of Europe in the Crimea, we must look not only to what they have achieved, but also to what they have endured. In the chill rains of December and the bitter colds of January, when his strength was sinking from privation and fatigue and the enervating diseases that follow in their train, he preserved unimpaired the honourable pride of a British soldier in the midst of all his sufferings. He was determined to do his duty whatever might befall him. He never lost heart—he never yielded an inch of ground, and not a murmur ever escaped his lips. This, to my mind, is proof of a higher heroism than even that which was displayed in the devoted gallantry of Alma, Balaklava, or Inkermann. Of all the duties which a nation owes to its soldiers, none is more obviously demanded by justice, humanity, sound policy, and even by economy, than the duty of providing for them, when struck down by wounds or by sickness contracted in the performance of their duty, all the care, kindness, and comfort, as well as the skilful treatment, which their situation then requires. But for some time during the late war, whatever were the soldier's sufferings in camp, they were little mitigated by his removal to hospital, however skilful and assiduous the medical officers might have been. The truth is, that the system upon which our military hospitals were conducted appears to be antiquated and defective. The sick who were landed at Scutari from the Crimea were generally received into a hospital in a loathsome condition, and without any change of linen. The hospital authorities did not consider themselves at liberty to provide them with linen, because, according to the rules of the service, a man going into hospital ought to take his linen with him. But this was impossible for him to do. When he embarked from Bulgaria for the Crimea in September, 1854, he had been ordered to leave behind him his squad bag, which contained the greater part of his linen and spare clothing. Those bags were stored at Scutari, where, I understand, they all remained till January, and nearly all till March, 1855. And when the sick and wounded arrived at the hospital at Scutari in the condition I have stated, the fact that their squad bags were there appears to have been overlooked, and their own linen, which was lying in those bags, within a few yards of where they were suffering in filth and rags for want of it, was not made available to them. Who was responsible for this omission it would be useless to inquire. Of course nobody is to blame—less, perhaps, I should have been able to tell you who was responsible for leaving the sick in that wretched condition, I am able to tell you who rescued them from it. Florence Nightingale found them in that condition, and, except the aid she gave them from the "Times" fund, provided at her own expense, from the patients, which could not have cost less than £1,200,000, she could not have done so. The aid of the ladies and the nurses made arrangements for the sick, and the ladies taking an active share in that menial labour. She established a private hospital without any trained cooks, and she established a private hospital fitted for those who were most reduced was prepared, and I have contributed to save the life of many a brave man. Forseeing that the hospital would be insufficient, she urged the repair of a large number of the sick Hospital, which was so dispirited as to be unusable, and the repairs were commenced, but the workmen soon struck, because they were the officer who had charge of the work could not procure the materials. She advanced them from her own means, and curiously enough the repairs which those repairs were completed, a number of sick and wounded to fill that wing, and for whom there was no other accommodation in the Crimea and were placed there. But the wards were empty, and the hospital authorities declined to provide the requisite furniture, which she purchased at her own cost, and furnished the wards; but the amount had been repaid. I mention these things—and I might tell you of many more because many of you may not know or may not remember them, and I am sure, have ever heard, or will ever hear, of them from her. But I shall less to dwell further upon services to the sick and wounded which she has made her name dear to the army and to the country, and which will place her in the history of our times as the worthy leader of the most remarkable movements which this war, in many respects memorable, has produced. I cannot, however, refrain from stating some facts creditable to the soldiers of the British army, which ought to be known. Miss Nightingale had, of course, occasion to be in the hospital at Scutari, and she informed me that she never on any occasion had heard even a soldier. In answer to my inquiry whether she had observed any of the soldiers much reluctance to leave the hospital and return to the Crimea, Miss Nightingale replied, that she did not remember having seen one to write one letter for any soldier with a view to prolong his stay in the hospital, but she believed she had written 500 or 600 for men who wished to return to the officers that they considered themselves fit for duty. Such is the character of the soldiers of the army of the East have established for themselves, in the camp during the worst times—and in hospital. Let us hope that the material improvement—the higher standard of feeling and of comfort which benevolence and patriotism of Miss Nightingale, and the ladies who have introduced into our military hospitals will not be permitted to be lost with the occasion that gave rise to them. While we can obtain advice and assistance from the calm practical intellect of Florence Nightingale, let us hope the nation may be enabled to reap the full benefit of her enlightenment and great capacity in that department in which she has in this country, our time no equal. And now let me propose to you the toast which has been trusted to me, "Florence Nightingale."

This toast was responded to with the highest enthusiasm. It was the last important toast of the evening; and, after the services of the man and croupiers had been acknowledged, "Auld Lang Syne" was sung, and the assembly separated.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THERE is a perfect absence of any intelligence calculated to explain the diplomatic difference between France and England on the subject of the evacuation of the Principalities and the Black Sea; but the feeling of the French press, or rather expressed by the French press, is uniformly bitter. The "Constitutionnel," we observe, has even descended to a mischievous piece of misrepresentation, the object of which can only be conjectured. It attributes to the "Globe" a paragraph on the subject of the situation in the East, in which "a Gibraltar or Malta in the Black Sea" is indicated as "a better guarantee against Russian aggression than an army of 100,000 or 200,000 men." No such paragraph appeared in the "Globe;" and we think it highly improbable that it appeared in any English journal.

The return of Retschid Pacha to power has excited an unpleasant sensation among French officials.

The Emperor, it is thought, will return to St. Cloud from Compiegne on the 9th, and leave again on the 15th for Fontainebleau.

M. Brenier, the late French minister at Naples, has arrived at Paris. Count Kisseleff, the new Russian Ambassador to the Court of the Tuileries, proceeded on Tuesday to Compiegne, to deliver to the Emperor an autograph letter from the Czar.

The French demand for the Austrian evacuation of the Principalities, originated, we are told, with M. de Morny, "now at St. Petersburg."

The Toulon squadron still remains stationary, but is taking in provisions and war stores for six months.

SPAIN.

QUEEN CHRISTINA is to go to Rome to attend the accouchement of her daughter the Princess de Drago, and, we hear, has no intention to return to Spain for the present.

The recognition of the Queen of Spain by the Emperor of all the Russias is a *fait accompli*. The ambassador charged to make it has already set out and will soon arrive at Madrid. The Duke of Osuna will probably be named Spanish Ambassador at the Russian Court.

The Minister of Finance, according to the "Epoca," is so occupied in providing means to purchase food and to meet the obligations of the treasury and the half-year's dividends, which fall due at the end of December, that he has to postpone the financial measures which had been expected. It is reported that the Cortes are about to be summoned.

General Enrique O'Donnell has resigned the command of the province of Cadiz.

The Civic Guard is to be raised to 12,000 men. Notice has been taken at Madrid of the attacks of certain organs of the French press against the present Spanish Ministry, and orders have been sent to General Serrano to ask for explanations on the subject from the French Government.

AUSTRIA.

A LETTER from Vienna of the 29th ult. says:—"As has been already stated, our relations with the Cabinet of St. James's are every day becoming more and more friendly. It may be said that our political situation in this respect has been completely modified in the space of four or five thirty days. In official circles, pains are taken to show all the advantages which Austria obtained at different epochs from her old alliance with England, the only great Power of Europe from which we have much to fear, but from which, on the contrary, we have much to hope. As to the evacuation of the Danubian provinces, Count de Badi does not attach very high importance to it, and it is regarded here as a question which time alone can solve to the satisfaction of the great Powers interested in the consolidation of the Turkish Empire."

RUSSIA.

PRINCE GORTSCHAKOFF, the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, has transmitted to all the Russian agents abroad a circular from General Prince Gortschakoff, Governor of Poland, stating that all Poles who had taken refuge abroad in order to avoid military service are admitted to enjoy the benefit of the amnesty, and may return home without being molested.

The Empress of Russia is said to be *en route*. Russia has definitively excused Persia from the payment of the indemnity for the expenses of the war of 1827.

It appears by a letter from Nicolaieff that the greatest activity prevails in the building-yards in that port, where not only vessels of war but merchant vessels are being constructed. The ships of war which are stationed in the Black Sea and in the Sea of Azoff will be strong. They will be composed of three divisions, that is to say, of twelve vessels, frigates, corvettes, and others, all screw steamers, constructed on the approved system. The garrison of Nicolaieff now consists of 19,000 men.

ITALY.

THE affair of Naples begins to lose interest, though the King is evidently far from reassured. We hear that additional Swiss troops have been sent up to St. Elmo, which commands the city, and the King has all been called in; so that Naples has the appearance of a city of soldiers. Strong orders have been issued to suppress the shout or demonstration even with the most trifling pretext.

on this question at least, it is almost impossible to say which way it will move. It is at a dead stand: that it will have to move soon is certain.

The Austrians have evacuated Forlì, Faenza, and Imola. The Austrian army of the Papal States is now confined to the towns of Bologna and Ancona.

The Italian Chambers are to assemble on the 20th of December. It is expected that the Parliamentary session, properly so called, will not open until January, 1857.

The Emperor and Empress of Austria are expected to arrive at Trieste on the 20th of November, and at Vienna on the 25th. Great preparations are being made in both towns for their reception.

SWITZERLAND

A telegram from Bern states that the English Minister, in the name of the Government, has communicated to the superior executive Federal Council a proposition for the settlement of the question of Neuchâtel. The proposition, in this connection, that the Germanic Diet took cognizance of an amendment submitted by Prussia on the Neuchâtel question, was referred to a committee, composed of the plenipotentiaries of Austria, Prussia, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Saxony, Baden, and Darmstadt, and this committee expressed an opinion in favour of the Prussian proposition.

The Valley of Lâ, near Avers, in the Grisons, not far from the frontier of Austria, which is in dispute between Austria and Switzerland, has become the scene of fresh difficulties created by Austria, who has carried a quantity of wood cut on that territory. The authorities of the Grisons have despatched a commissioner to the spot in order to settle the circumstances.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The Ottoman Ministry, whose resignation was announced, and then retracted, have definitively retired; and a new Ministry, under Redschid Pacha, has come into power. This change is peculiarly important at the present moment; for while the late ministry was rather open to French influences, Redschid Pacha is known to be favourable to the policy of England. The day for presenting the Sultan with the insignia of the Order of the Medjidie, on which Redschid Pacha entered on his functions as Grand Vizier, and in that capacity he was present at the ceremony.

On the 25th of October it was definitively settled at Constantinople between the Porte, England, and Austria that the occupation of the Black Sea and Danubian Principalities should be prolonged.

The *Valleur*, despatch boat, has been sent to reinforce the squadron off the Isle of Serpents.

In reply to a demand presented by M. de Boutinoff, Lord Lyons has declared that the English fleet shall remain in the Black Sea until the ratification of the Treaty of Paris.

The commission for determining the Bessarabian boundaries has commenced its labours.

Some disturbances have broken out in the neighbourhood of Jerusalem. Redschid Pacha has returned to Damascus. Some disturbances have taken place in that city, in which a French physician was knocked down by some of the native people. The consul has obtained the arrest of several of the guilty parties.

Another shock of earthquake was felt at Broussa on the 22nd, but no serious injury was caused.

On the 17th ult., the Austrian garrison at Galatz was reinforced by two regiments of dragoons.

PERSIA.

An ultimatum from England has been forwarded to the Shah of Persia. The Indian squadron was to sail in the beginning of October. A letter from Bombay says that thirty transports and fifteen steamers of war will be engaged in this expedition, carrying 11,000 men and 1,200 horses, besides of seamen and marines. The capture of Bushire was considered inevitable. Notwithstanding the efforts of England, the Persian army was steadily pressing the siege of Herat. It was fortifying the environs, of which it had obtained possession after having defeated the Afghans, 6,000 of whom had surrendered.

AMERICA.

The latest intelligence received is generally unfavourable to Fremont. There now seems but little doubt that the superior organisation of the Democratic party has triumphed, and that Mr. Buchanan will be the next President of the United States.

In Kansas, 250 emigrants—men, women, and children—had been expelled near the Nebraska line by a deputy marshal, disarmed, and placed under surveillance. To insure their detention, 700 men, with six pieces of cannon, were drawn up. The property of the emigrants was taken possession of.

By a Napoleonic decree Walker has re-established slavery in the Republic, and the sympathies of the southern States of the Republic are now to be actively enlisted in his behalf.

A private despatch states that General Walker had made an attack on the Costa Ricans and their allies, and after two battles, had driven them back upon Massaya, where he was preparing again to attack them. Walker claims that he was completely victorious in both fights, although he had but 1,000 men engaged, and the enemy were 1,000 strong. The enemy lost 100 killed and wounded. Walker's loss was small.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The Caffre prophet or witch-doctor, to whom we made a passing reference last week, seems to be playing a more important part than might be supposed. Umhlabakazi announces that all the great Caffres who died during the last century will arise from the dead as soon as those living have accomplished all his decrees. These are, that they shall either kill or sell their cattle, goats, poultry, &c.; that they are to empty their grain, and, in fact, to leave themselves without means of subsistence of any kind. When all this shall be accomplished, then, at a given signal, all their slain cattle will arise, together with their forefathers, who will come out of a pit or cave at the mouth of the Kei, and when a strong wind will sweep away the white men, with all the cattle, from the face of the earth. The prophet has further commanded that every man shall provide himself with an axe. All this trumpery is firmly believed by the Galeikas and the Namas; they are now killing their cattle by thousands; and they do not kill are offered for sale at one-fourth of their value, and are probably the object of that crafty "prophet." The Caffres are terrified by the witch-doctor not to sow or cultivate their ground this season. It is feared that obedience to his commands must bring famine on the Caffres, which will drive them to desperation, and make them as dangerous to their neighbours as hungry wolves. Preparations for such an event are in progress throughout the colony, and especially near the frontier. "Graham's Town Journal" has the satisfactory remark, that "at the present moment the military force on this frontier is far more efficient than the commencement of any former outbreak."

AUSTRALIA.

Several papers announce the discovery of new and rich diggings at the River and Stony Creek, near the town of Bathurst—which place has been deserted for the gold fields—had caused a complete panic. People were rushing in hundreds from the older diggings to the new El Dorado, which we need not be surprised at when we are assured that one party secured 300 ounces and another 160 ounces in the course of one day. Many thousands were on the newly-discovered treasure spot, and among the number about 2,000 Chinese.

From Melbourne we learn that a general election was impending—the new constitution. The new Parliament was expected to open in October. The character of the Lower House was expected to be decidedly democratic; but anything like extreme tendencies in that direction was apprehended. Business is sound and steady, and in consequence of the exports from the home country no longer exhibits those violent fluctuations which were formerly the characteristic of the Melbourne trade.

SIEGE OPERATIONS BY NIGHT AT CHATHAM.

Some interesting siege operations took place at Chatham Great Lines during Tuesday night. At half-past six, the Royal Engineers, and the Hon. East India Company's Sappers and Miners, to the number of about 1,000 men, assembled on parade in marching order with their fixed tools for working, and at seven o'clock were marched to separate divisions on the ground in charge of Lieutenant Leupriere, R.E., who took the command of the working party of the Royal Engineers of the left attack; and Major Soley, R.E., with a strong working party, proceeded to take command of the party of the right attack; whilst Captain Walker, R.E., took charge of the party of the right attack; whilst Captain Walker, R.E., took charge of the party of the right attack; whilst Captain Walker, R.E., took charge of the party of the right attack.

On the sound of the bugle, the troops commenced tracing the ground, forming parallel lines, and the signal was given for a regular attack. The troops were assisted by a number of lights used by the army in tracing. The working party of the Royal Engineers was sent out from the garrison to attack the batteries, and on their falling in with the outposts of the enemy, a brisk fire was opened on them by the working party in the entrenched works. The whole of the working party, extending nearly three-quarters of a mile, stood to their arms, and shortly afterwards a heavy firing commenced on the garrison, the patrols leaving behind them fire-balls on the glacis, in order to see their way into the garrison. The garrison, in return, opened a tremendous fire of artillery from Fort Amherst; the guns were manned by the Royal Marines (Light Infantry), the ramparts being lined by the Royal Engineers, who acted as infantry, the other fire-balls and blue lights were lit up on the salient angles of the bastion, under the charge of Quartermaster Bradford, which threw a brilliant light over the country for miles. The troops in the garrison sent a party as a patrol from the works, but owing to the lights they were soon discovered by the besieging party; they were then driven back under a sharp fire of musketry, and the firing was kept up by the troops perceiving the parallels and batteries with considerable spirit, and, as nothing could be seen but the reflection from the firing, the musketry and field pieces of artillery had altogether a very imposing effect. During the firing the Spur Battery and the King's Battery became brilliantly lighted with fire-balls and blue lights, and their reflection produced a most magnificent effect, having the appearance of a large town on fire.

The various operations were considered perfectly satisfactory by Colonel Sandham and the whole of the staff officers who were present. It was very late before the troops were called to go to their barracks.

About 4,000 persons were present on the lines to witness this interesting military spectacle.

OBITUARY.

SCARBOROUGH, THE EARL OF.—On the 28th ult., at Sandbeck Park, Yorkshire, aged 68, died John Lumley Saville, eighth Earl of Scarborough. He was the representative of a family which traces its descent back to times anterior to the Norman Conquest, and held an Irish as well as an English peerage. He was born in 1788, and succeeded to the peerage on his father's death in the early part of 1835. His Lordship represented the county of Nottingham from 1836 up to that date, and was Lord-Lieutenant of that county. He was of moderate Liberal politics, and died unmarried. He succeeded in the title by his cousin, Mr. Richard Lumley Saville, of Tickhill Castle, Yorkshire, who is married to a daughter of Mr. Andrew Drummond, of Cadland, near Southampton, and granddaughter to his Grace the Duke of Rutland, K.G.

BANDON, EARL OF.—On the 31st ult., at Castle Bernard, aged 71, died James Bernard, second Earl of Bandon. He was Lord-Lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the county of Cork, which he represented for nearly twenty years in Parliament. His Lordship was born in 1785, and succeeded to the peerage in 1830. He was elected a representative peer for Ireland in 1835. By his Countess, a daughter of the late Archbishop (Brodrick) of Cashel, his Lordship has left three sons, the eldest of whom, Francis Viscount Bernard, now M.P. for Bandon, has succeeded to the earldom.

JERVIS, CHIEF JUSTICE.—On the 1st instant, aged 54, died the Right Hon. Sir John Jervis, Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas. Having served for some time in the army, he entered the profession of the law in 1824, when he was called to the bar, and went for some time the Oxford and Chester circuits. He sat in Parliament in the Liberal interest for Chester, from 1832 till his elevation to the bench in 1850, having held the post of Attorney-General since 1846. He married, in 1824, a daughter of A. Mundell, Esq. He had been for some time in a declining state of health, the immediate cause of his death being apoplexy.

HAGGARD, DR.—On the 31st ult., at Brighton, died John Haggard, D.C.L., Chancellor of the Diocese of Manchester, in his 63rd year. Dr. Haggard was educated at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, of which college he was a fellow, and he proceeded to the degree of LL.B. in 1813. He was appointed Chancellor of Lincoln by Dr. Kaye, the late Bishop. In 1845 he was nominated Chancellor of the Diocese of Winchester, and in 1847 commissary for Surrey. In the same year, 1847, he received the appointment of Chancellor of Manchester from the first bishop of that diocese. As an editor, Dr. Haggard rendered eminent services to the literature of civil and ecclesiastical law.

IRELAND.

ARMED ATTACK OF THE CONSTABULARY.—About ten o'clock on Sunday night week, constable Phillips and seven of the Ballymahon constabulary were on patrol at Moign, where they discovered an armed party, consisting of over 200 persons, who appeared to be in council on the road. On seeing the police, the party rushed forward and endeavoured to disarm them. A desperate fight ensued, several of the mob were knocked down, and the constables succeeded in capturing a gun from one of the party after much difficulty. Again the mob made an attack on the police (who had loaded and fixed bayonets) endeavouring to regain the captured gun. The ground was well contested for nearly a mile by the small but determined constabulary party and their numerous assailants; the snapping of fire-arms was now and then heard, and stones were showered like hail. The police succeeded at last in arresting seven of the party, all natives of the county of Westmeath, some of whom had come upwards of fifteen miles.

ANOTHER MURDER IN TIPPERARY.—Michael Keena was on Sunday week returning from the village of Enly, towards Duncannon, (Clonmel), where he lived, when he was waylaid by a man, who struck him several blows on the head with a blunt instrument, and then escaped across the fields. The skull was fractured in various places, and when the unfortunate man was found he was bleeding profusely, and lying on the roadside. He sank rapidly, and died on Monday evening. The murderer has not yet been found.

THE GREAT MUNSTER FAIR.—This important fair, which had excited so much interest among those connected with agriculture, commenced at an early hour on Thursday week, and was far the best fair held since the charter for its being holden was issued. The fair ground was in splendid order, beautifully smooth and laid out in the "short grass" so well suited for showing off to advantage the action, figure, and symmetry of horses, of which there was an immense collection. The greater number of them were of a very superior description. Of weight-carrying hunters there was a very large display, among which were some very splendid animals, that sold at prices ranging from £80 to £150, and for some much higher prices were obtained. The attendance was very large.

THE TIPPERARY BANK.—The official manager has carefully scrutinised all the sources whence proceeds may be available, and he states it to be his decided opinion that he shall not be able to realise more than £100,000, or about 6d. in the pound in addition to the 2s. already paid, and 2s. more which he expects to derive from the property of John Soley; and in order to effect this he must be empowered to treat with the English shareholders who dispute their liability.

THE PATRIOTIC FUND AND THE ROMAN CHURCH.—The Royal Patriotic Fund Commissioners have consented to make a separate allowance out of the fund for the education of orphan children of Irish Roman Catholics in schools belonging to their own Church.

THE PROVINCES.

THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER AND DR. CUMMING.—A great tumult has been raised among the Manchester "Puseyites" on account of the Bishop of Manchester having used these words at a public meeting in that city last week:—"There was one person present whom they ought to hail with more than ordinary interest and satisfaction—a Presbyterian of the Established Church of Scotland. I care not what may be the import attached to the words I utter now. I hail him as a brother in all sincerity and truth." The Bishop's remarks were reechoed by Dr. Cumming in the same spirit, amid the applause of nearly 6,000 people in the magnificent Free Trade Hall.

A WIFE FOR SALE.—The inhabitants of Retford were somewhat surprised on Friday week by an announcement from the town-crier, that a woman of the name of Starkey would be offered for sale in the public market on the following day. At the appointed hour a large concourse of people made their appearance in the square near the Corn Market to witness the proceedings. Previously, however, the luckless husband, John Starkey, went to the house of a person in Moorgate, of the name of Bradley, where his faithless spouse had taken up her habitation, and presenting a new halter with which to lend her away, he was set upon by Bradley, who most savagely bit him upon the cheek. Being thus deterred from the accomplishment of his object, he ended his way down the borough, bleeding profusely. On arriving in the market-place he was receiving the pity of his friends and the commiseration of several bystanders, when two policemen made their appearance and took him into custody for being a deserter from the West Riding of Yorkshire militia. He was safely lodged in the lock-up, where he still remains, awaiting further orders from the War Office.

A MEETING FOR ITALY IN DENBY.—A public meeting, to consider the Italian question, was held on the 6th of Oct. in Denby, on the evening of Thursday week, having been convened by the Mayor in obedience to the wishes of 142 requisitioners. The petitioners in their address requested the meeting to be called "for the purpose of an effective mode of expressing our sympathy on behalf of the Italian people, and the whole of Italy." "We consider," said the Mayor, "this step the more necessary, as the concentration of arms and creation of strongholds in Austria Italy, show clearly its intention of plunging Europe in a vortex of bloodshed and anarchy by invading England's ally, Sardinia, which is the only country on the Continent where religious and political freedom, the liberty of the press, and other liberal institutions are founded and maintained." The meeting was very numerously attended, the hall being quite full. The Mayor occupied the chair. A resolution was carried of presenting the atrocities which the Italian people have suffered upon Hungary, Poland, Moldavia, Wallachia, and Italy, and calling on the British nation for subscribing towards the purchase of 100 cannon for Sardinia and 10,000 muskets for those Italians who shall in due time uphold the national standard." A subscription for this purpose was commenced in the hall. Another resolution condemned the French alliance.

FACTORY TROUBLES.—A few weeks ago, the workpeople at Messrs. Spencer and Horsfall's mill, Coventry, turned out for an increase of wages to the amount of one shilling each per week. Before leaving the mill, one of the weavers cut two warps in the loom. Messrs. Spencer and Horsfall offered a reward of £10 for the discovery of the offender; and the weavers themselves, in order to show that they deprecated the act, have offered a further reward of £5. The firm having persisted in refusing the advance, several hundred hands are thrown out of employment. The "Coventry Herald" mentions what it calls a cruel, if not an illegal act, on the part of the firm, namely, the printing of the names of the turn-outs, and sending a copy to each warehouse in the neighbourhood, in order to prevent the men obtaining employment.

TAMPERING WITH RAILWAY POINTS AT PRESTON.—At Preston, on Friday week, a lad named John Partington was charged with having, on October 20th, fastened back some self-acting points on the Preston and Longridge Railway, by which considerable mischief was done, and life endangered. About one o'clock in the afternoon of the day named, a passenger-train went over the points, and soon afterwards a stone-baden train of six wagons came down the line from Longridge to Preston. Instead of running on to the Preston Station, part of the train was turned off towards the tunnel of the Fleetwood, Preston, and Longridge Railway (now leased by the Preston and Longridge Company), and the other wagons remained on the line leading to Preston. The consequence was that two of the wagons were smashed to pieces, the wheels broken, and the rubble stone with which they were laden scattered about the line. It was then found that the points had been fastened back, and a lad named Angus Higginson gave information at the station that it was Partington who had fastened them. On the hearing of the case on Friday, however, James Nelson, another lad, stated that he heard Higginson say to Partington, "Jack, go and pull the shunts, and I'll stand all the loss and damage," and after directing him to fasten them back with a stick from the hedge, he said, "Now I'll go and tell the station and get the reward." Higginson was then placed in the dock; and, after the evidence had been again gone through, both the lads were committed for trial at the next Kirkdale assizes. Bail was refused.

WAKEFIELD MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.—The sixtieth anniversary meeting of this institution came off on Thursday week, and was attended by M. Miles, M.P., the Dean of Ripon, Colonel Smyth, Canon Treason, Mr. Widderspin, &c. About 1,200 persons sat down to tea in the Corn Exchange.

SOUTH DEVON AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this society, which includes the whole of the South of Devonshire within the sphere of its operations, was held on Friday week, at Newton Abbot. There was an exhibition of prime cattle, and a ploughing match on an extensive scale—no less than thirty-eight ploughs having competed. The dinner was held at the Globe Hotel, and there were upwards of 200 agriculturists present.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY NEAR HALIFAX.—Last week, Mr. Norcross Burrows, a printer, was attacked and robbed on the highway near Bradshaw, a short distance from the town, by three men, having their faces blackened. One of them knocked him backward over his horse; the other two then held him by the arms and attempted to strangle him; whilst the man who knocked him down held his hand over his eyes, and rifled his pockets of their contents, which fortunately consisted only of a few shillings, some keys, and a knife. Disappointed at finding their booty so small, the ruffians brutally kicked him in the side. The blood flowed from his mouth, nose, and ears, and he called out for assistance. His assailants were about to give him another kick, when they heard the sound of footsteps, and ran off. Mr. Burrows then endeavoured to remount his horse, which was quietly grazing at a little distance, but the saddle girths had been cut, and on putting his foot into the stirrup, he fell to the ground. He was very much injured.

WITCHCRAFT IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.—A case of gross credulity has just been made public at Shepton Mallet. A woman named Weishman, who is by profession and reputed a witch, was recently sent for by another woman named Batho, of Downside, to dispossess her of a spell under which the poor deluded creature fancied herself labouring. Weishman quickly put her magic in operation, impressing on her victim the necessity of strictly abiding by her instructions. The poor woman went on for some weeks until she was brought to a very low state of health by various tricks which had been practised upon her, and she then communicated what had been going on to some neighbours. The result was that Weishman was brought before the magistrates on Wednesday, and it being proved that she had extorted various sums of money from her dupe, besides supplying herself with vegetables from the garden, she was committed to the Shepton Mallet House of Correction for six weeks.

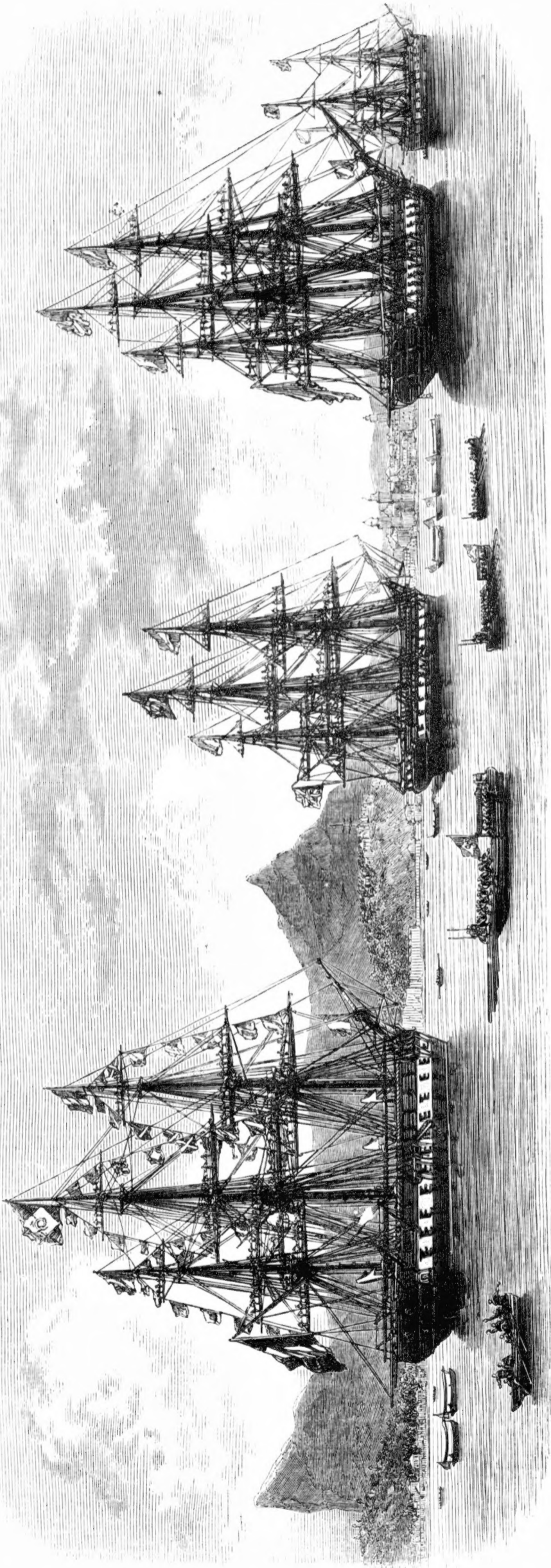
FATAL ACCIDENT AT MANCHESTER.—At the building for the Art Exhibition, on Saturday, a portion of an arch of the picture gallery and a wall in its rear fell and buried some eight men in the ruins of the brickwork. As soon as the debris could be removed, it was found that one man, a bricklayer of the name of Thomas Jones, was already dead; his injuries were received in the head. Other seven were more or less wounded, and they were speedily carried to the Manchester Royal Infirmary. After having their wounds dressed, two were able to go home. The occurrence was purely accidental.

FIRE AT HUDDERSFIELD.—On Saturday morning, soon after five o'clock, a watchman (Robert Bradley) unlocked the door of Mr. Kaye's mill, at Folly Hall, Huddersfield, and after opening the door of the fourth storey, he discovered that a large basket of shoddy was on fire, having ignited spontaneously. The flames spread rapidly, and by half-past seven o'clock the roof had fallen in, and the building was destroyed (with the exception of the end rooms), only the walls being left standing. The damage done is estimated variously at from £7,000 to £10,000. A large number of workpeople are thrown out of employment.

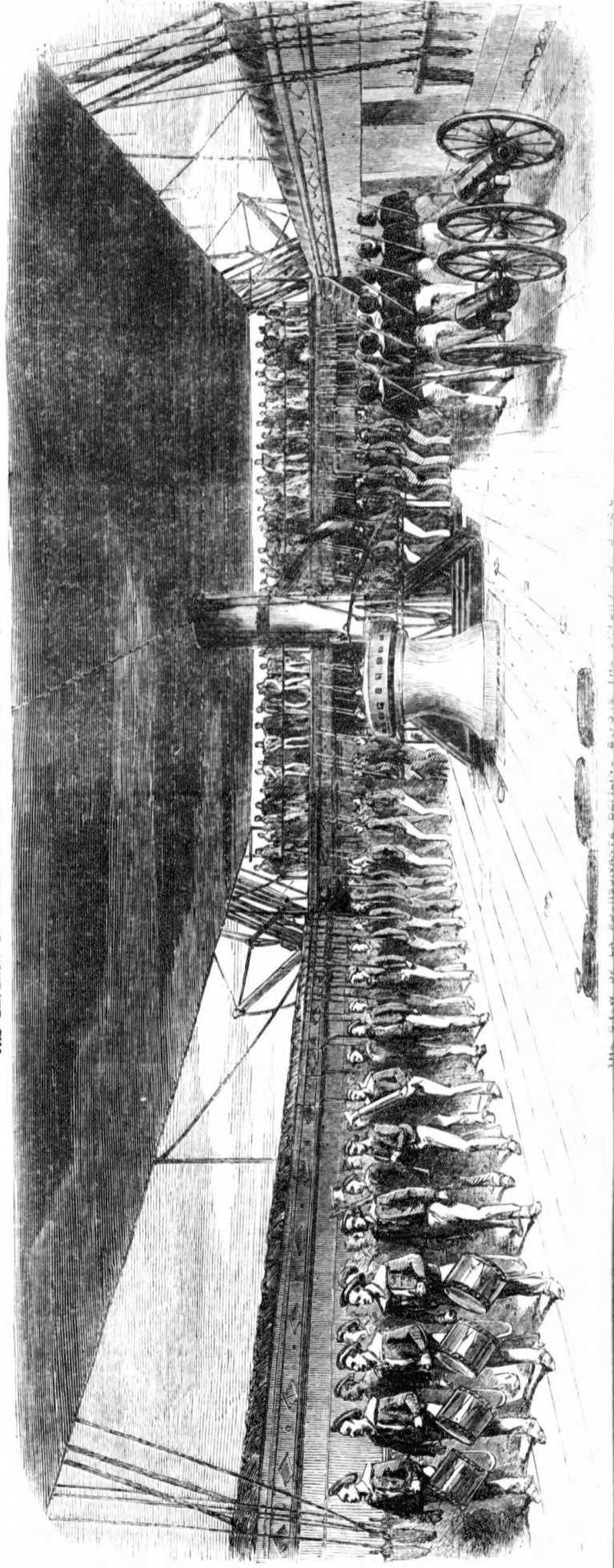
ENCROACHMENTS OF THE SEA AT DOVER.—The Kent papers report that the sea is making serious encroachments at the back of the Lord Varden Hotel, Dover, and at the same time doing extensive injury to the works of the South-Eastern Railway. The encroachment is attributed to the removal of the beach from the immediate locality for the construction of the piers and blocks used in forming the harbour of refuge. Whenever there is a south-western gale the sea surges up, and dashes over the quay with awful violence, tearing up the pavement, and dealing devastation on every spot within reach. The attention of the Lords of the Admiralty has been called to the subject.

FELONIOUS ASSAULT BY A GERMAN SOLDIER.—About eleven o'clock on Sunday night, as a respectable woman, named Elizabeth Dennis, wife of a carpenter of Elmstead, was proceeding along the road to meet her daughter, who was returning home from Colchester. When about 300 or 500 yards from home, she was assaulted by a German soldier, who knocked her down into a ditch filled with furze, then pulled her out, and committed an assault on her. The fellow is known, and a warrant has been issued for his apprehension.

COMMITMENT OF AN ATTORNEY IN COURT.—At the Cheshire Quarter Sessions, last week, an appeal was heard against a conviction for unlawful possession of stolen silk. To prove that the silk had been lawfully acquired an invoice was produced in court on the part of the appellant. The invoice was produced in a mutilated form, a portion, which it was suspected would have disqualified it for the part it was to play, being absent. The attorney for the appellant was Mr. Cooper, and the scene which followed the production of the paper is thus described:—"The paper was handed down to counsel, and the court was just saying that they should like to look at it, when a constable who happened to be sitting near, suddenly dived down head foremost among the people's feet, and presently rose holding up two small bits of paper, which he had picked up under Mr. Cooper's seat." "These are the pieces," exclaimed the constable. Instantly the whole court was wrapped in breathless attention. Mr. Joynton, on the bench, fired the pieces to the torn paper, and found that they corresponded exactly so far as they went, but that there was yet a small piece missing. Down dived Constable Taylor again, and produced another small piece of paper, asserting that Mr. Cooper had scraped his foot several times backward and forward on the floor over where he found it. Another Constable Scott, then addressed the bench, saying that he had seen Mr. Cooper tear the pieces out of the invoice and throw them down. The chairman then said, "During sixty years that I have sat upon this bench, I never saw a proceeding so audaciously wicked as this. We must suspend the further hearing of the appeal, while we decide what to do on the extraordinary case which has now arisen, which at least is a scandalous contempt of court." Mr. Cooper protested against the inquiry altogether. The paper, he said, was not material evidence in the case, and the torn part had not been intended by him to be used as evidence at all. The bench, however, ordered him into custody. Depositions of the Constable Taylor, Mr. E. J. Macintyre, and Mr. Bevan were then taken; the two latter gentlemen to the fact that the mutilated evidence was material to the case, and that the mutilation essentially altered the meaning of the invoice as it stood before. In the end, Mr. Cooper was committed for contempt, and was confined all night in the House of Correction. On Thursday he was discharged; but an order of court was made, directing the county solicitor or to apply to the Court of Queen's Bench to have Mr. Cooper truck off the rolls."



THE EMPEROR OF BRAZIL VISITING THE FRENCH FRIGATE, LA POURSUIVANTE.



THE EMPEROR OF BRAZIL
ON BOARD
THE FRENCH FRIGATE
LA POURSUIVANTE.

ONE day, about three months ago, the magnificent bay of Rio Janeiro, the capital and great mart of the empire of Brazil, and celebrated for its picturesque scenery, presented an aspect peculiarly lively. Everything wore a holiday appearance in that vast inlet, seventeen miles in length and eleven in extreme breadth. The weather was remarkably fine and temperate, the ships were all dressed in colour, boats glided through the water, and barges, gilded and gayly painted, moved about on every side. These contained the suites of the Emperor of Brazil and of the noble families of Rio Janeiro, who had all roused themselves to energy; for on that day—it was the 4th of August—his Imperial Majesty was paying a visit to the *Four-saute*, a French frigate at anchor in the bay, and bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral La Roque de Ciamray. While presenting the accompanying engraving, illustrative of this visit, we avail ourselves of the opportunity to inform our readers as to the career and character of this young ruler of an extensive empire. The Emperor of Brazil is a scion of that Royal house of

more than two centuries, reigned in Portugal. Brazil having been discovered at the beginning of the sixteenth century, was colonised by the Portuguese; and in 1807, when the Emperor Napoleon, having decreed the partition of Portugal, issued a proclamation that "the House of Braganza had ceased to reign," and sent an army under Junot to execute his sentence, the Prince Regent resolved on retreating to Brazil. Accordingly, the Royal Family, to the number of fifteen, including a poor, old, melancholy Queen, embarked with little intention of ever returning. The British ships fired a salute; a crowd mournfully watched the retreating vessels; and as the last sail disappeared, the columns of Junot marched into Lisbon. But when Portugal was freed from the grasp of Napoleon, and the House of Braganza was recalled, King John returned to occupy his ancestral throne, leaving his son to govern Brazil, which had been declared an independent state. The son, having on his father's death become Emperor with the title of Dom Pedro I., espoused an Archduchess of Austria. Their son is the Emperor who figures in our engravings. When Dom Pedro II. was proclaimed on the abdication of his father, he had just reached the age of five, and the government

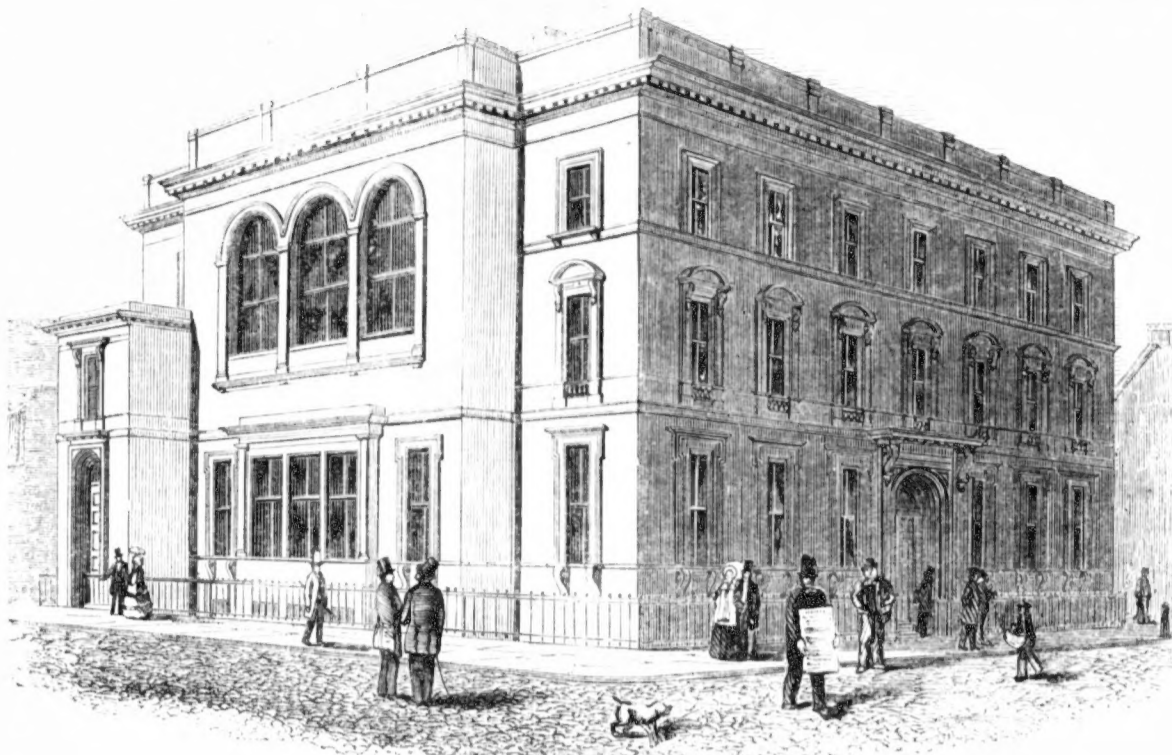
was entrusted to a Council of Regency. But this led to no inconvenience. Such was the patriotism displayed by public men, that Brazil, during a critical period, preserved its constitution; the youthful Emperor was educated with great care; and when not quite fifteen, he was declared by the Chambers to be of an age to assume the Imperial functions, and to wear that diamond crown which was at one time pawned to Rothschild.

A tall, stout young man, delighting in athletic exercises, celebrated for his equestrian skill, and of a popular bearing, is this Brazilian prince. When at Rio Janeiro, the seat of Government, he appears often in public, is very courteous in manner, and takes a week gives audience to his subjects and those foreigners who happen to be in the capital. During the ceremony of reception, the Emperor's knowledge of modern languages is to him a great advantage. He speaks with fluency English, French, Spanish, Italian, and German; is strongly attached to literature; and often presides at the Historical and Geographical Society of Rio. He is a liberal patron of industrial enterprises—such as public works, and schemes for piercing the navigation of rivers. Moreover, the Emperor is characterised by good sense, prudence, activity, and firmness. Even his most eminent counsellors are not more thoroughly informed on all questions of policy; and no one among the ministers or public men of Brazil has given more attention to the administration of affairs.

But that part of the Emperor's life most worthy of bright praise remains to be narrated. His great object on coming to the throne was to encounter boldly the national prejudice as to the necessity of employing blacks as slaves; and he has done it so effectually that the objectionable traffic has been definitively suppressed, and the Brazilians have accepted his policy—of which the motto is, "No more traffic in slaves; but European colonisation." The course taken by the Emperor of Brazil and the Chambers was not only to decree the suppression of the traffic, but to furnish the agriculturists with substitutes for black labour. This policy was carried out so efficiently and judiciously, by attracting Europeans to Brazil, and encouraging the settlement of small colonies, that the greater portion of the planters of the empire have learned to prefer free to slave labour.

From this brief sketch our readers will be able to form an idea of the imperial personage who paid a visit to the frigate *Ponrhuicant*, in the bay of Rio Janeiro. On the occasion, each of the ships of war in the bay was gayly decked, and honoured the Emperor and his suite with a salute from her guns.

Among those who were on board the *Ponrhuicant* on this occasion was M. Fromy, the marine painter, from whose drawings our engravings are taken. M. Fromy at the time received from the Emperor of Brazil a commission to paint, from these drawings, two pictures in commemoration of his visit to the flag-ship.



THE MANCHESTER MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.

THE MANCHESTER MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.

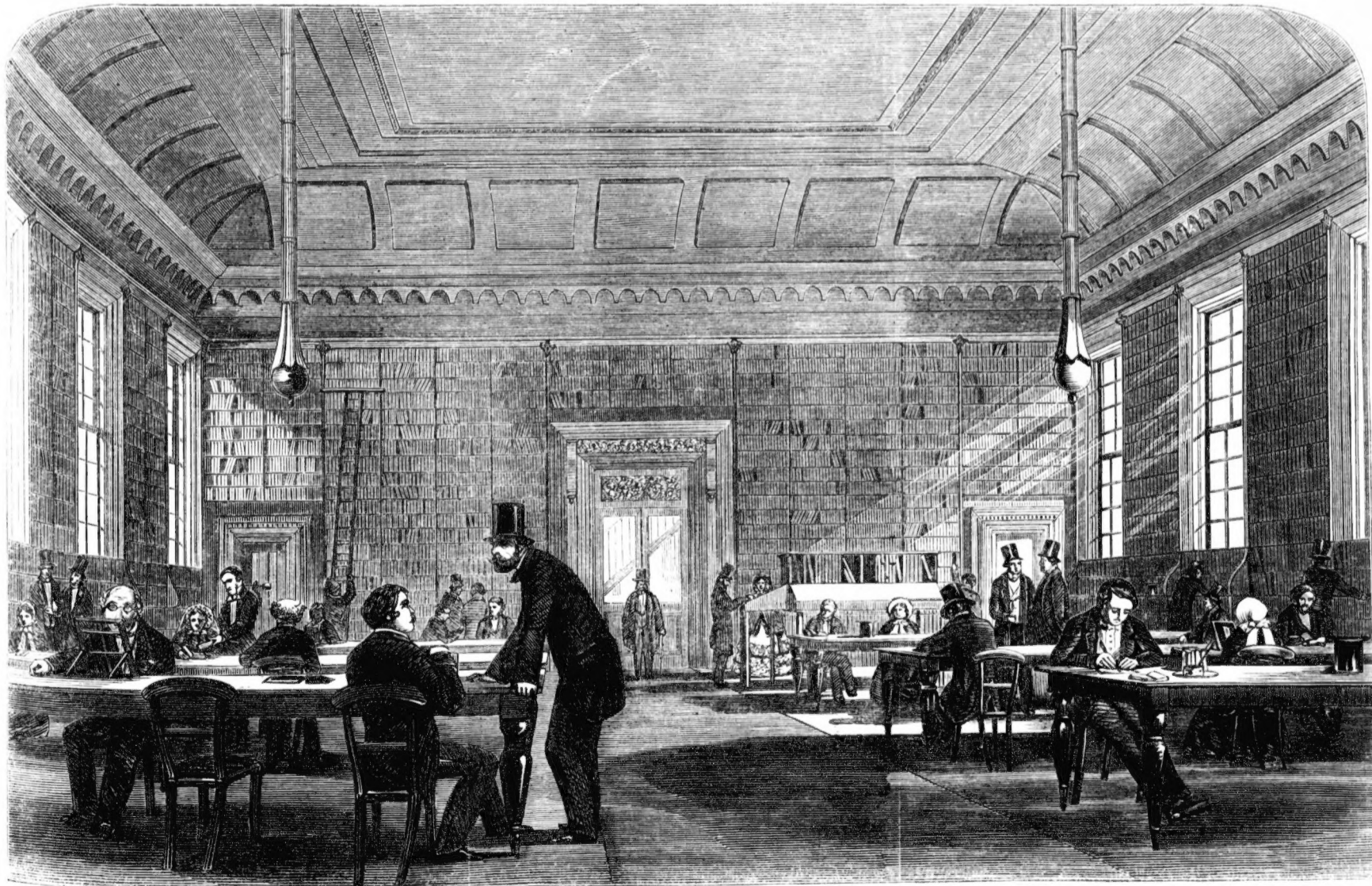
MECHANICS' INSTITUTES, since the time when Dr. Birkbeck first enunciated the idea, and explained the proper aims and probable advantages of such establishments, have been diffused over the length and breadth of the land; and of course Manchester was not slow in accepting an idea so obviously suited to her wants and necessities.

So far as literary institutions are concerned, Manchester is chiefly known to the general public by its Athenæum, which Mr. Cobden helped to found long before he was a public man, and which celebrated its twenty-first anniversary a fortnight ago. Ask any average reader of the "Times" if he has ever heard of the Manchester Athenæum, and he will probably answer "Yes;" put the same question with regard to the Mechanics' Institution, and ten to one the reply will be "No." The Manchester Athenæum made itself a name and fame by the process, disused only of late years, of inviting literary and political lions to "roar" at an annual *soirée*. Disraeli and Bright, Lord Carlisle and Sir Archibald Alison, the Archbishop of Dublin and George Dawson, prosaic William Chambers and high-flown Ralph Waldo Emerson, have been trotted out at annual *soirées* of the Athenæum, the "Times" reporting and commenting on their speeches, and all the world thus getting to know that there was such an institution. Much more quiet has been the career of the Mechanics' Institution—an obscure career, till Lord Palmerston promised to assist at the inauguration, last month, of the new building (represented in our engraving), into which it has just removed; and then suddenly it became famous as the means of drawing to the metropolis of

peace the only survivor of the old school of war ministers. Yet though its history has been less noisy, the real usefulness of the Mechanics' Institution has not been inferior to that of its more showy neighbour, the Athenæum. It appeals, by its prices and by the culture which it affords, to a humbler class than the other. But who knows? its appeal has perhaps been more successful. The settled man of business, the well-to-do clerk and warehouseman use the Athenæum—its news-room and telegraphic despatches, its smoking-room and library. The shopkeeper, the shopman, and the artisan, mainly support the Mechanics' Institution. But the latter, if hitherto inferior to the Athenæum in the news department, and in those appurtenances which belong to a club, is superior to it as a really and truly educational institution. Its day and evening classes do not figure merely on paper—they had very lately no less than nine hundred members attending them. But what, from a rational point of view, distinguishes the Manchester Mechanics' Institution, is that it twenty years ago gave the first of those Exhibitions of Industry which have since expanded into such gigantic dimensions and enjoyed such world-wide patronage. It was on the circumstance that 60,000 Manchester men passed through its treasures without doing the slightest mischief, that the late Mr. Hume

founded his motion to throw open all public collections to the indiscriminate admission of the people. Nor can there be a doubt that the great development of the art-element in the present (the fourth) Exhibition of the Manchester Mechanics' Institution suggested the idea of the Art-Treasures Exhibition of 1857, with which sooty, smoky Manchester will astonish the world of connoisseurs and dilettanti. What would Horace Walpole have said to an invitation to send a selection from the curiosities of Strawberry Hill for the inspection of Lancashire?

Out of debt, with its 1,600 members, more than half of them receiving, not classical, but class education, the Manchester Mechanics' Institution found, some time ago, that the old building in Cooper Street was too small for it, and the success of the past promised that the future would warrant the experiment of a new and larger habitation. Hence the Exhibition of Industry and Art to help to swell the fund for erecting the building of which our engraving gives an excellent idea; and hence the visit of the Premier to Manchester, the first, be it remarked, which he has ever paid to that great manufacturing centre; nor could he have chosen a more conciliatory occasion. In spite of wars and rumours of war, Manchester is thriving as she never thrived before;—the cotton exports of the country amount this year to very nearly one-third of its total exports;—may her literary institutions thrive along with her trade and commerce! With its very large library, and its admirable system of class instruction, the Manchester Mechanics' is second to no similar institution in the kingdom, as regards real usefulness, and by that, after all, such establishments whether showy or modest, must stand or fall.



THE LIBRARY OF THE MANCHESTER MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.

Lord and Lady Palmerston duly arrived at Manchester on Tuesday afternoon, and were met at the London Road station by Sir Benjamin Heywood, Mr. Oliver Heywood, the President of the Mechanics' Institution, and crowds of enthusiastic people.

On the following morning, the Premier set out to fulfil the objects of his visit. His Lordship, accompanied by Lady Palmerston, first paid a visit to the cotton-mills of Sir L. Armitage, at Poulton, where they inspected the works, and witnessed the different stages of cotton manufacture. From whence they proceeded to the Mechanics' Institution.

The Noble Lord, who was attended by Sir Benjamin Heywood and Mr. Oliver Heywood, was introduced to Mr. Manchester, the manager, and to the directors of the Institution. Mr. James Heywood, M.P., Mr. Brotherton, M.P., Mr. J. Forster, Chairman of the Salford Sessions, and other gentlemen of local influence, were also present. His Lordship was first shown through the rooms on the ground floor, stored with beautiful objects of decorative art, and was then led into the central hall, devoted to paintings and sculpture. A number of ladies and gentlemen were assembled in this room to witness the reception of the Premier, and when he made his appearance he was enthusiastically cheered. His Lordship next visited the picture-gallery, which contains some fine pictures of the modern school, including well-known works by Herbert, Landseer, Stanfield, Roberts, Pyne, Cook, Collins, Herring, Danby, and one or two from the pre-Raphaelite school. A very characteristic picture by O'Neill, entitled the "Obdurate Jurymen," attracted a good deal of attention. With this gentle walk through the Institution, and a genial and interested examination of the building and its contents, the chief object of the Premier's visit was concluded.

On leaving the Institution, however, the party proceeded to interest itself in the town generally, visiting the machine works of Messrs. Whitworth and Co., and afterwards the bank of Sir B. Heywood and Co., where luncheon was provided. While at the Mechanics' Institution, Mr. Whitworth exhibited to Lord Palmerston his patented rifled howitzer 24-pounder, cast at Woolwich, and bored and rifled at the works of Messrs. Whitworth.

On Thursday, the Premier visited the Royal Library and Museum at Peel Park. His Lordship was received by the mayor and other municipal authorities, who conducted his Lordship through the museum, picture-gallery, and library. In the reading-room the Corporation of Salford presented the Premier with an address. Peel Park is one of their estates purchased in 1846 by the Corporations of Manchester and Salford at a cost of £50,000. The library contains 18,500 volumes; and during the seven years it has been opened, 431,974 volumes have been issued to the public, to be read in the institution, being an average of 400 volumes daily. The museum has been visited during the past seven years by 2,165,359 persons, being an average of about 3,000 daily. The working expenses of the establishment do not exceed £700 a-year, and are paid out of a borough rate of one halfpenny in the pound.

The Salford address having been presented and acknowledged, Lord Palmerston proceeded to the Town Hall, where he was presented with three other addresses—one from the Town Council, one from the Chamber of Commerce, and one from the Commercial Association.

In the evening, the Noble Lord attended a great and very successful meeting of the members of the Mechanics' Institution at the Free Trade Hall. And thus we briefly chronicle this important visit to the chief seat of English manufacture.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

A COLLISION of a singular character, being nothing less than the running of a train into its own engine, occurred on Wednesday week on the London and North-Western Railway during the fog. The train consisted of about thirty wagons, some of them heavily laden with iron, which left Birmingham for London at ten o'clock on Wednesday morning. This train was drawn by one engine, but immediately behind that were two "dead" engines, as they are called, which only served to increase the weight of the train, without aid in its propulsion. The line from Bishworth to Wolverton is on an incline, in descending which the engine became detached from the train and ran on without it for some distance. The driver then appears to have slackened speed, or to have reversed his engine, and the train, running down the incline with its own momentum, dashed into the engine, overturning one of the "dead" engines, knocking another off the rails, and committing great havoc among the carriages. The rails of both lines were twisted and dislocated for some twenty yards, the wreck and debris strewn about in all directions, and the telegraphic communication on one side of the line broken. Pike, the fireman of the engine, who was seriously injured, was conveyed to a farm-house in the vicinity, and Jonathan Oscar, the driver, to a neighbouring cottage. The former sustained a fracture of the left arm, together with severe injuries about the chest and one of his legs. Oscar was scalded but not seriously. The obstruction on the line owing to delayed trains was quite unparalleled.

On the next evening, two trains came into collision on the North Kent Railway, about 150 yards from the Defford station. Both trains were going at a low speed; the up-train slackening to stop, the down-train not yet having attained its full rate. None of the carriages were driven off the line, but the concussion was very severe, and many persons were seriously hurt. Fractures and contusions were plentiful; but there does not appear to be any fatal case.

An accident of a serious character occurred on Monday afternoon, near the King's Langley station of the London and North-Western Railway. The Midland express up-train, due at Euston station at four o'clock, had passed the telegraph station at King's Langley, and in another minute ran into a coal train, which was proceeding along the line in the same direction. The shock to the passengers was very great, and ten or twelve persons were injured. Fortunately, no loss of life has resulted from the accident. Several carriages were injured, but there was no important interruption to the traffic on the line.

MINISTERIAL DECLARATION.

THE "Morning Post" has been directed by Lord Palmerston to make a declaration in the self-same sense as that so persistently repeated by the Austrian official organs, and it accordingly does so in the following terms:—"It has been stated, in various quarters, that the Sublime Porte has addressed to our Government a remonstrance against the longer continuance of the British fleet in the Black Sea. We are enabled to state that no such representation has been made by Turkey; and we repeat, that until the complete and faithful execution of the Treaty of Paris, the British fleet will not be withdrawn from the Bosphorus. The points at issue, however apparently insignificant in themselves, really involve the whole principle for which we engaged in the late war, and of which we obtained the full recognition in the treaty, signed at Paris on the too credulous supposition that it would be honourably fulfilled."

AN ADVENTURER IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

AN individual of the Robson genus honoured Malta with his presence recently. Assuming an air of consequence, he induced many to believe he was a special correspondent of a London paper sent by the special desire of Lord Palmerston. He claimed his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge as his particular friend; hinted at certain private claims that made the Duke anxious to serve him; and exhibited an alleged private note from his Royal Highness to corroborate his statement. He not only stated he was also in the Duke of Buckingham's confidence, was acquainted with his secrets, and was his guide and director, but affirmed he had £700 per annum from his Grace, as a consideration for money he had advanced him some years ago, to the amount of £10,000; and he actually furnished a house in the vicinity of Valetta, which he pretended to be very anxious to have well arranged, as the Duke was coming to pass the winter with him in Malta. His great political influence, and his friendship with the Duke of Cambridge and the Duke of Buckingham, aided by his connection with the English press, had induced, he said, the Earl of Charendon to offer him, in a private letter, a consulate in the Black Sea, or any other office in his gift. He introduced everywhere a young female whom he called his wife; and had the audacity to put himself forward as a candidate for the Council of Government. In several instances he borrowed money, which he forgot to return; and incurred debts wherever he could obtain credit, some of which he paid in worthless cheques. Amongst other ingenious tricks, he invited a party to dine with him on a particular day, including some high officials, but as he took care to embark for Marseilles on the day preceding, they were cheated of their repast no less than of his choice company; while he effected without suspicion his departure from the island, which was becoming too warm for him. His dishonest dealings did not end here; for, taking passage in a government transport, he paid for his food on board with a bill which was dishonoured. Since his departure, it has come to light that he went to the island to avoid the consequences of a most disreputable bankruptcy in England; and that the lady he paraded as his wife had no right to that title. It is to be hoped that this narrative will put people on their guard against individuals who so largely trumpet forth their own importance, connections, and means.

SIR EDWARD BULWER LYTTON, SIR JOHN HORSFELD, AND MR. LATAED, are mentioned as probable candidates for the Lord-Rectorship of Glasgow College.

SUFFERINGS OF THE CREW OF THE TAY ON LOBOS ISLAND.

ON Friday last we gave, from a letter from Havannah, some account of the voyage of the mail agent in the life-boat of the *Tay*, which was wrecked in the Gulf of Mexico. The following is a letter written at St. Thomas by one of the wrecked, and gives some particulars of the sufferings of the crew on Lobos Island:—

"The *Tay* struck on Cape Roxo, in the Gulf of Mexico, at five a.m. on Saturday, the 29th of August. The scene on board was most awful. The monster steamer rolled about as if in its last agony—the captain cool and collected. All the boats, lowered and manned, stood off at a short distance. Had our sharks surrounded us, and seemed to mark us for their prey. Between the raging seas there was a sort of lull, by which the boats could communicate with the ship. The surf was dreadful to look at. If it had been rough weather, not a soul would have been alive half an hour after the ship struck. As soon as possible, one of the life-boats was despatched to Tampico, in charge of the mail agent, with the mails and passengers, to obtain assistance. The only things that could be got from the ship for the officers and crew, were some biscuit, salt pork, a few live fowls and turkeys, and about five or six gallons of water. The captain's gig was loaded with some hams, candles, jams, jelly, the captain's private goods and clothes, some of the officers' private clothes, some valuables, and three men. The gig drifted round to the stern of the *Tay*, and after being knocked about like a shuttlecock, she was thrown bottom upwards. Two of the men were dragged below by sharks, and never appeared afterwards. The other made his appearance, resting on three oars, which he had grasped. He truly represented a strong man in agony. He battled with the raging surf, and got ashore safely, although sharks were all around him.

"At eleven a.m. the ship was deserted, the captain being the last to leave. Ninety-nine persons were now cast adrift, with scarcely provisions enough for a single meal. It was impossible to land anywhere near Cape Roxo, because of the violence of the surf. At intervals a low small island could be discerned at several miles distant, and this was our only hope of safety. The captain declared that it was the Island of Lobos, and probably water would be found there. He recommended that all the boats should go for that island.

"At one p.m. the chief officer led the way in his boat to the island, the captain in the dingy bringing up the rear. We reached the island soon after four p.m., but found the surf rolling mountains high, forming apparently an impenetrable wall around it. We waited for the captain, to know what should be done. Captain Strutt examined various parts of the island, and at length he saw what he considered an opening, and he entered it, the dingy being light, and landed. He was to wave a handkerchief close by a hut seen on the island if we were to follow. No handkerchief waved. At length the captain came off again. He said the loaded boats could not get in; the dingy must take in a few at a time. By this means we all landed, after great difficulties. It was a sandy beach, straddled with rocks. A man with a boat-hook stood on the bow of the dingy, and guided her in through an avenue of rocks. Before everything was landed and the boats made fast it was nearly dark. All were pale, haggard, and tired. All hands were, however, piped, and Captain Strutt, with a voice choked with emotion, offered thanks to Almighty God for our great deliverance. Every one was in tears. Nothing could be more solemn or affecting than this scene.

"The island on which we were was about three miles in circumference. We wandered about, and found beneath two fine trees iron funnels driven into two wells, to prevent the sand from getting into the water. The wells did not seem to promise a very liberal supply of water. There were other signs of visitors having been on the island. After a small piece of biscuit, a little frog, and a scrap of pork, had been given to every one, we prepared for rest. Every one wandered about, seeking at every bush a shelter for the night. A lighted lamp was hung up in a tree. We all rested on the ground, with nothing over us but our day clothes. The island was brilliant with fire flies, and snakes and lizards crawled over us. The rolling sea, beating and expending itself in angry surges on the tiny spot on which we were resting, was thundering all night in our ears. Sunday morning arrived. It was feared that the wells would be dry after we had emptied them of the small quantity of water found in them, but this was not the case, for soon afterwards the springs filled the wells again. All hands were piped again, and prayers were read. A slight breakfast of biscuit and pork, or cheese, was served out. The captain asked for volunteers to visit the wreck, to see what could be saved from her. Numbers of men volunteered to go, and they started for the wreck, but could not approach it, the sea had so increased in violence. Men were occupied on our solitary island in shooting sea gulls and pelicans, which abound there, and we fed on the birds. After prayers in the evening we lay down again with heavy hearts; tormented with hideous land crabs, which caused horrible disgust as they crawled over us.

"Monday morning rose to no better prospects. The captain and volunteers again visited the wreck. No better luck this time. There was no approaching the wreck. Hunted for turtle eggs, and found quantities. Although plenty of turtle were there, they could not be caught. Passed another miserable day; half starved, and no good prospects. The captain read prayers, and all lay down to try to find rest for both body and mind, for the third night. Tuesday morning, after prayers and breakfast, a party went again to the wreck, and this time succeeded in getting on board, and took away from her several sheep and fowls that were nearly dead. On hearing of this success, two more boats went off directly, and got stew pans, hampers, blankets, and a few beds, pillows, &c. Found the poor cow alive, but much exhausted. Could not get her out then, for the weather was threatening, and the captain made us all leave for our solitary home. In the course of the day our morning was turned into joy—a steamer was seen bearing down upon us. This was a Mexican war-steamer sent from Tampico to our relief. We got all on board of her that day, and went and saved the poor cow. The captain of the Mexican war-steamer would not delay any time, for if bad weather had come on it would not have been safe there. We got everything off our island by Tuesday night, and were comfortable on board the war-steamer. On Wednesday night we reached Tampico. Here we were a month waiting for the Conzacy to take us to St. Thomas, where we should be shipped for England. What with anxiety, fatigue, exposure, and bad living, half of the officers and crew were laid up with ague and fever at Tampico. We were placed in a house which was infested with centipedes, scorpions, emmetts, and mosquitos, which nearly drove every one mad. Those who were well enough went up Tampico river shooting alligators with some Americans. At length our deliverance came. The chief portion of the officers and crew were brought off in the Conway. At Havannah a number of the crew went into the American merchant service. They obtained employment easily, because sailors were wanted, and they were preferred because they had excited interest on account of the sufferings they had undergone. At St. Thomas a number of the crew were engaged, so that only the officers and about thirty-five of the crew will go home to England. Many of the men engaged at St. Thomas went down to the Spanish main."

SIR CHARLES NAPIER AND SIR ROBERT PEEL.—Sir Charles Napier, the dashing admiral, has replied to Sir Robert Peel, the astute statesman. Sir Charles reminds Sir Robert that he was associated with Admiral Parzeval; not that Parzeval and himself disagreed, or that either of them cannot afford to bear any imputation from Sir Robert. The old Commodore proceeds to say—"If the Grand Duke Constantine told you what you state, he told me a very different story. His imperial Highness went over with me the plan of the south of Cronstadt, and he himself showed me the total impossibility of succeeding against Cronstadt by ships. If you formed your judgment from what you saw, it shows your ignorance of naval matters, and your want of generosity in attacking the character of a man who has faithfully served his country for so many years. If the Grand Duke told you that the north of Cronstadt might have been attacked, this was quite true. But whose fault was it that it was not attacked but that of the Board of Admiralty, which did not furnish the means by which alone it could have been successfully attacked, viz., gun and mortar boats and rockets? If you have been put forward by the Admiralty to insult me, you have acted an unworthy part; and if you have put yourself forward, you have acted a foolish one."

RICE CULTIVATION.—The "Times" mentions an interesting experiment in the cultivation of rice at present under trial in Egypt, as likely to lead to an improvement in India. Mr. Lattis, a Venetian, has undertaken to produce two crops of rice in the year instead of one. He brought the first crop to maturity in July last, and it is believed that he has been equally successful with his second crop. Lord Carnarvon, having heard of the experiment on his passage through Egypt to India, and perceiving the enormous advantage that might be derived from such an improvement in the country he was going to govern, requested the British Consul to watch the result, and forward a full report on the subject to the Home Government.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE INTERIOR OF AFRICA.—Last week, a deputation from the British Association, consisting of Sir Roderick I. Murchison, General Sabine, Dr. R. G. Latham, Dr. J. E. Gray, and Dr. Norton Shaw, waited upon the Earl of Charendon to urge H.M. Government to resume the communication with the interior of Africa by the Niger and its tributaries, as opened out by the late expedition under Dr. Baikie, thus continuing a system of regular intercourse with the natives.

MORE TROUBLE IN THE CHURCH.—Upwards of eighty benefited clergymen, in the diocese of St. David's, have memorialised Bishop Comop Thirlwall against the theological teaching of the Rev. Rowland Williams, the professor of divinity in Lampeter College. The protest is specifically directed against the teaching contained in the Professor's sermons, published under the title of "Rational Godliness," the tendencies of which were pointed out about a year ago in the "Quarterly Review," and have since occasioned much discussion.

LITERATURE AT A WORKHOUSE.—A few months since, it was decided by a majority of the Guardians of a Welsh Union not to appoint a regular chaplain to the Louse, and the spiritual duties have since been performed by various Dissenting ministers of the town. The following is a verbatim copy of an entry made in the "Chaplain's Book" by one of these gentlemen:—"September 14. Attended and held Divine Service at their real Time The congregation very fair and very attentive and it was indeed a Time Be remembered may God water There They Sowers and Seed."

RE APPEARANCE OF MR. SPURGEON.

MR. SPURGEON, pursuant to notice privately circulated among his congregation, resumed the occupancy of his own pulpit in Park Street Church, Southwark, on Sunday morning. Mr. Spurgeon was conducted to his pulpit by the deacons of his chapel. He appeared quite recovered from his recent indisposition; indeed, had we not been most credibly assured that the Rev. Gentleman had been really ill, we should not have seen that fact.

The service commenced with a short prayer, after which Mr. Spurgeon gave out one of Watts' hymns, a verse in which it was declared that he depicted the preacher's own state of mind:—

"The tumult of my thoughts
Both but enlarge my woe;
My spirit languishes—my heart
Is desolate and low."

In the prayer which followed, Mr. Spurgeon alluded to the afflictions which he had undergone as follows:—

"We are assembled here this day with mixed feelings of joy and sorrow that we meet each other again, and sorrow for those who have suffered afflictions. Thanks to Thy name! Thanks to Thy name! Thy servant should not have addressed this congregation again. But Thou hast brought me from the fiery furnace, and not even a snail of fire has passed upon me, but more over given Thy servant strength, and he desires now to commend great promises of free grace which the gospel affords. . . . We thank Thee for all the slander, calumny, and malice with which Thou hast afflicted me, and grant that we never give them cause to triumph with reason."

A psalm was now sung, after which Mr. Spurgeon spoke thus in reference to the melancholy occasion above referred to:—

"Now, my dear friends, I almost regret that I should have occupied this pulpit this morning, because I feel totally unable to preach to your people. I thought during the relaxation I have had since that terrible calamity, I was thoroughly recovered; but upon coming back again to the same place, addressing you from this place, I experience the same painful prostration which I have experienced before. You will, therefore, I am sure, my kind friends, excuse me if I make no allusion, or scarcely any, to that subject. I feel overwhelmed by the torrent of my feelings if I returned to that dreadful night in which it was my lot to stand. God will overrule that event for some good, which might not have arisen so much from the malice of men as from some secret wicked intention to disturb the congregation."

But, says the Reverend Gentleman, with a feeling of charity and suffering which we are sure does him honour:—

"I cannot entertain for a moment the thought that there was any sin in the manner those fellow-creatures whose lives were sacrificed on that night of occasion. God forgive the instigators of that horrid scene! They have given from the depths of my soul. It shall not, however, stop us, for we preach there again yet—suppressed sounds of approval—and God shall be glorified. Satan's empire shall tremble yet more and more. God is our ally, and shall be against us."

Appropriately as the hymn given out at the commencement of the service expressed Mr. Spurgeon's desolation, it was scarcely as singular that the passage which he selected for his text. Here we perceive how true it is in his sufferings; and it we believe the Reverend Gentleman, as he declares that this passage brought "comfort and consolation" to a "still oppressed spirit," we are at the same time convinced that he meant to apply any portion of the text to his own case. Mr. Spurgeon said:—

"Under the circumstances I have chosen for my text a highly comforting passage of the Scriptures, and one which alone enables me to be here before you this morning, and which has brought comfort and consolation to my still oppressed spirit. It is, 'Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name. That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.' I shall not attempt to preach to you upon this text. I will merely make a few remarks which occur to me upon it."

Mr. Spurgeon then gave an exposition of the text, and engaged the attention of his hearers for more than half-an-hour. The discourse was almost entirely free from the strange metaphors which have rendered the gentleman's preaching so notorious, and we have reason to hope that who came to be amused went away disappointed.

A great crowd awaited Mr. Spurgeon's departure from the chapel, and many eager admirers ran after his carriage to grasp the hand which he extended from the window of his brougham.

THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK—RECOVERY OF £20,000.—The other day, upon the arrangement previously made by the official manager, the ship *Itan*, from Calcutta, 1,206 tons register, belonging to Mr. Humphrey Brown, was seized in the name of the Court of Chancery on her arrival off Deal, and is now lying in the Victoria London Docks under the care of Messrs. Bay and Aspinwall, the brokers acting for the official manager. The vessel was mortgaged to the Royal British Bank by Mr. Humphrey Brown, and is now under the winding-up of the bank forms part of the assets to be realised among the depositors and creditors. The value of the ship and freight is estimated at not less than £20,000, and the proceeds will be applied in payment of the amount due from Mr. Humphrey Brown to the bank. The claims of 1,100 creditors, amounting in the aggregate to £120,000, were proved on Saturday by the official manager at the chambers of Vice-Chancellor Kindersley; it is expected that at the end of the present month all the claims of creditors will have been examined and proved, and on the completion of the proofs, the official manager proposes applying to the court for liberty to pay a dividend of 5s. in the pound.

THE GUN-BOTS BREAK DOWN.—In the trials which have lately taken place of the first division of the steam reserve of gun-boats at Sheerness, nearly all of them broke, owing to the boilers or tubes giving way. It has become so important to adopt some measures for improvement in the boilers in use on these vessels, the services of which may at any moment be required. They are in their present state unable to go to sea.

THE LAW AMENDMENT SOCIETY held the first general meeting of the nineteenth session on Monday evening last. A large number of new members were balloted for and elected.

MR. CORDELL, it is rumoured, will not again come forward as a candidate for the representation of West Yorkshire.

THE NEW BISHOP OF GRAHAM'S TOWN, in the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, is the Rev. Henry Cottenill, M.A.

COPENHAGEN ACCOUNTS mention that the military stores of Government have been embroiled to a considerable extent. No fewer than fifty-eight persons have been engaged in these frauds, which will be investigated before the tribunals.

THE MORMONITES AND THE "GENTILES."—Brigham Young has thus once more in a troublesome way in Utah. Brigham dislikes the presence of the Gentiles in his settlement, because it is said that these wicked heathens find favour in the lures of Utah. The Mormon leaders have had a convention in the Temple to denounce the infidels, and have followed up their denunciations by watching the federal mails, to prevent egress or ingress of suspicious persons. A correspondent says:—"I have not yet had time to go from Washington whether the interference is serious. There is trouble with this community. Mr. Marcy wisely sent a regiment there a year ago, quartered them there a winter. The experiment was not palatable to the people, who denounced these children of the Evil One in unmeasured terms, and the people, should they ever be quartered there again, to let them starve rather than supply them with the necessaries of life."

CONFESSION OF A FILIBUSTER.—Second-Lieutenant Jennings Estelle, of the extreme penalty of the law, at Nicaragua, by being shot on the Plaza the 19th of September, for the murder of Second-Lieutenant Charles Gordon Estelle, had been previously arrested for shooting Thomas Edwards, and when he committed the act for which he suffered death, a prisoner confined in his quarters. The deed, we are told, was committed without any provocation, and without any aggravating circumstances. Just before his execution he made the following confession:—"I was born in Marshall, Tennessee, in the year 1833, and was raised from my infancy in Hinds County, Mississippi. I started to California in 1853. On the road I had a difficulty with a man of the name of Howard, and shot him. I afterwards shot a man of the name of Hays, but the wound did not happen to prove fatal. In the same year I had a difficulty with Charles Robinson, and shot him in three places. My last two difficulties, while in California, occurred at the State Prison, where I had been employed for the last two years. After getting in the last scrape, I came to Nicaragua, and shot Thomas Estelle. I afterwards shot Charles Gordon. I must say that in all my difficulties I did not once in my right mind. Twice I had been forgiven, and hope to be forgiven for them all. I think there is a God in heaven that will not cast me away, and I know, and I know that it was not I that killed Charles Gordon. It was my crazy mind that did it. I say that I was not in my right mind when I did the deed, and God knows it. Forgive me, officers and soldiers, and I die a happy man." Such is the material of General Walker's army of conquest in Nicaragua. The American Filibuster is a man who, having "had enough" of one scene of American invasion and aggrandisement, and plays the Mexican enthusiast and patriot.

Literature.

The Voyages of the Second Council Expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, 1853-54-55. By EDWARD KANE, M.D., U.S.N. Philadelphia: Collins and Peterson. London: Chapman and Co.

It is considerable interest attaches to books of travel, even when merely adventures entered upon with a view to personal recreation, will be regarded by any one intelligent enough to be amused and instructed. In the case of the volumes before us, the interest is peculiar—seeing that they relate to an expedition undertaken from the finest sentiments of humanity, and resulting in discoveries the importance of which is generally recognised. It would have been surprising if Dr. Kane's work had not been hailed with some degree of enthusiasm by his countrymen, who are so intent on fostering literature. The Americans, we are told, have not failed to mark their appreciation of his services. No fewer than thirty thousand persons subscribed for his work, and Congress, by voting a resolution to the effect that one hundred thousand copies be purchased for distribution among the soldiers, bore grateful testimony to those public services of which it is a fitting and modest record.

The readers are well aware that since the year 1818, when apprehensions were first entertained as to the safety of Sir John Franklin, many brave and valiant men have ventured on expeditions in the hope of finding him and his comrades. Of the expeditions undertaken with this view, it has been that associated with the name of Dr. Kane, who, though pursuing a great object, had still the distinction of surveying the northernmost of Greenland to its termination by a great glacier; of ascertaining its northern boundary to be a new land, which has been named Washington; and of discovering a new northern sea, with an iceless area of four thousand and two hundred miles; and also a large tract of land forming the extension northward of the American continent.

Having in another column indicated the nature of Dr. Kane's services, we will now make such extracts as to give some idea of the work he has produced.

At the outset of his adventures, Dr. Kane gives us an interesting glimpse of the Moravian settlement at Lichtenfels, where, baffled by calm and light shore winds, he lingered for nine days:—

"While we were beating out of the fiord of Eiskerneas, I had an opportunity of visiting Lichtenfels, the ancient seat of the Greenland congregations, and one of the three Moravian settlements. I had read much of the history of its founders, and it was with feelings almost of devotion, that I drew near the scene of their labours and their sacrifices."

As we rowed into the shadow of its rock-embayed cove, everything was so quiet and still, that we might have fancied ourselves outside the world of men. Even the dogs—those querulous, never-sleeping sentinels of the rest of the world—gave no signal of our approach. Presently, a sudden turn around a point of rock brought into view a quaint old Silesian mansion, bristling with irregularly-disposed chimneys, its black over-hanging roof studded with dormer windows and crowned with an antique beehive.

We were met, as we landed, by a couple of grave ancient men in sable jackets and close velvet skull-caps such as Vandeyke or Rembrandt himself might have painted, who gave us a quiet but kindly welcome. All inside of the house—the furniture, the matron, even the children—had the same weathered look. The sanded floor was dried by one of those huge white-riled stoves which have been known for generations in the north of Europe; and the staid-looking chairs were evidently coeval with the first days of the settlement. The heavy-built table in the middle of the room was soon covered with its superfluities of hospitality; and we sat around to talk of the lands we had entered and the changing wonders of the times.

We learned that the house dated back as far as the days of Matthew Stach; but, no doubt, with the beams that floated so providentially to the shore some twenty-five years after the first landing of Egged; and that it had been the home of the brethren who now greeted us, one for twenty-nine and the other twenty-seven years. The "Congregation Hall" was within the building, cheerless with its empty benches; a couple of French horns, all that I could associate with the gladsome piety of the Moravians, hung on each side the altar. Two dining-rooms, three chambers, and a kitchen, all under the same roof, made up the one structure of Lichtenfels.

His kind-hearted inmates were not without intelligence and education. In spite of the formal cut of their dress, and something of the stiffness that belongs to a protracted solitary life, it was impossible not to recognise in their demeanour and course of thought, the liberal spirit that has always characterised the Church. Two of their "children," they said, had "gone to God" last year while the scurvy; yet they hesitated at receiving a scanty supply of potatoes as a present from our store."

The method in which the Esquimaux bury their dead is worthy of notice:—

"These Esquimaux have no mother earth to receive their dead; but they seat them in the attitude of repose, the knees drawn close to the body, and enclose them in a sack of skins. The implements of the living man are then placed around him; they are covered with a rude dome of stones, and a cairn is raised above. This simple cenotaph will remain intact for generation after generation. The Esquimaux never disturb a grave."

Dr. Kane had on board more than fifty dogs, whose numbers of course increased, and at first found them somewhat troublesome passengers:—

More bother with these wretched dogs! worse than a street of Constantinople crowded upon our decks; the unruly, thieving, wild-beast pack! Not a bone's paw, or an Esquimaux cranium, or basket of mosses, or any specimen whatever, can leave your hands for a moment without their making a rush at it, and after a yelping scramble, snatching it at a gulp. I have seen them attempt a whole fender bed; and here, this very morning, one of my Karsuk lasses has eaten up two entire birch-nests which I had just before gathered from the rocks; feathers, fish, pelicans, and moss—a peckful at the least. One was a perfect specimen of the nest of the tridactyl, the other of the big burgo-moosier.

"When we reach a floe, or berg, or temporary harbour, they start out of a body, neither voice nor lash restraining them, and scamper off like a drove of hogs in an ill-considered opening. Two of our largest left themselves behind at Feg Island, and we had to send off a boat party to-day to their rescue. At cost a pull through ice and water of about eight miles before they found the recreants, fat and saucy, beside the carcass of the dead narwhal. After more than an hour's attempt to catch them, one was towed and brought on board; but the other suicidal scamper had to be left to his fate."

These canine companions were afterwards discovered to be worth more than their weight in gold, and their services are gratefully acknowledged:—

"My dogs were both Esquimaux and Newfoundlanders. Of these last I had ten; they were to be carefully broken, to travel by voice without the whip, and were expected to be very useful for heavy draught, as their tractability would allow the driver to regulate their pace. I was already training them in a light sledge, to drive, unlike the Esquimaux, two abreast, with a regular harness, a bridle collar of flat leather, and a pair of trace. Six of them made a powerful travelling-team; and four could carry me and my instruments, for short journeys around the brig, with great ease."

The sledge I used for them was built with the care of cabinet-work, of American hickory thoroughly seasoned. The curvature of the runners was determined experimentally; they were shod with annealed steel, and fastened by copper rivets which could be renewed at pleasure. Except this, no metal entered into its construction. All its parts were held together by seal-skin lashings, so that it yielded to inequalities of surface and to sudden shocks. The three paramount considerations of lightness, strength, and diminished friction, were well embodied in it. This beautiful, and, as we afterwards found, efficient and enduring sledge, was named the "Little Willie."

"The Esquimaux dogs were reserved for the great tug of the actual journeys of search. They were now in the semi-savage condition which marks their close proximity to the wolf; and according to Mr. Petersen, under whose care they were placed, were totally useless for journeys over such ice as was now before us. A hard experience had not then opened my eyes to the inestimable value of these dogs. I had yet to learn their power and speed, their patient, enduring fortitude, their sagacity in tracking these icy morasses, among which they had been born and bred."

A picture-like sketch of how the navigators spent the day, or rather the twenty-four hours, in Arctic regions, appears to us particularly interesting, and well worthy of being extracted. It was a Thursday in March:—

"At six o'clock in the morning McGary is called, with all hands who have slept in the ice-berths measured, and things about put to rights. At half-past six all hands rise, wash on deck, open the doors for ventilation, and come below for breakfast. We are short of fuel, and therefore cook in the cabin. Our breakfast for all alike, is hard tack, work, stewed apples frozen like moccasins, tea and coffee, with a delicate portion of raw potato. After breakfast the smokers take their pipes till nine; then all hands turn to, idlers to idlers, workers to workers; Olsen to his bench, Brooks to his 'preparations' in canvas, McGary to play tailor, Whipple to make shoes, Bonsall to tinker, Baker to skin birds, and the rest to the 'Office!' Take a look into the Arctic Bureau! One table, one salt pork lamp with rusty chlorinated flame, three

stools, and as many waxen-bust men with their legs drawn up under them, the deck at zero being too cold for the feet. Each has his department. Kane is writing, sketching, and preparing maps. Hayes copying letters and meteorological notes; Sontag reducing his work at Fern Rock. A fourth, as one of the working members of the day, has long been detected: you will find him in bed, or studying 'Littell's Living Age.' At twelve, a business round of inspection, and orders enough to fill up the day with work. Next, the drill of the Esquimaux dogs—my own peculiar recreation—a dog-stroll, specially refreshing to legs that creak with every sock and rheumatic shroud; is that chronicle every descent of the whip. And so we get on to dinner-time, the occasion of another gathering, which misses the tea and coffee of breakfast, but rejoices in pickled cabbage and dried peaches instead."

"At dinner as at breakfast the raw potato comes in, our hygienic luxury. Like doctor-stuff generally it is not as appetising as desirable. Grating it down nicely, leaving out the ugly red spots liberally, and adding the utmost oil as a lubricant, it is as much as I can do to persuade the mess to shut their eyes and bolt it, like Mr. Squier's messmates and brimstone at Dobeloya Hall. Two aboriginals of the South Seas, getting drunk on the molasses which had perished the day before yesterday, and so flat and amiable to-day—all by a potato's politeness; my eloquence is wasted: they persevere in rejecting the admirable compound."

"Sleep, exercise, amusement, and work at will, carry on the day till our six o'clock supper, a meal something like breakfast and something like dinner, only a little more scant, and the others come in with the reports of the day. Doctor Hayes shows me the log. I sign it. Sontag the weather, I sign the weather. Mr. Bonsall the tides and thermometers. Thereupon comes in mine—charge, and discuss his labours for the morning."

"McGary comes next, with the cleaning up arrangement, inside, outside, and on deck; and Mr. Wilson follows with ice measurements. And last of all comes my own record of the day gone by; every line as I look back upon its pages, giving evidence of a weakened body and harassed mind."

"We have cards sometimes, and guess sometimes—and a few magazines, Mr. Littell's thoughtful present, to cheer away the evening."

At one part of Dr. Kane's book we have a bear hunt described with so much effect, that we should almost have relished taking part in so exciting a game:—

"The dogs are carefully trained not to engage in contest with the bear, but to retard his flight. While one engrosses his attention ahead, a second attacks him in the rear; and, always alert and each protecting the other, it rarely happens that they are seriously injured, or that they fail to delay the animal until the hunters come up."

"Let us suppose a bear crested out at the base of an iceberg. The Esquimaux examines the track with sagacious care, to determine its age and direction, and the speed with which the animal was moving when he passed along. The dogs are set upon the trail, and the hunter courses over the ice at their side in silence. As he turns the angle of the berg, his game is in view before him, striking probably along with quiet march, sometimes snuffing the air suspiciously, but making, nevertheless, for a rest of broken hummocks. The dogs spring forward, opening in a wild wolfish yell, the driver shrieking 'Nanook! Nanook!' and all straining every nerve in pursuit."

"The bear rises on his haunches, inspects his pursuers, and starts off at full speed. The hunter, as he hunches, leaning over his sledge, seizes the traces of a couple of his dogs, and liberates them from their burden. It is the work of a minute; for the nation is not checked, and the remaining dogs rush on with apparent ease."

"Now, pressed more severely, the bear makes for an iceberg and stands at bay, while his two foremost pursuers halt at a short distance, and quietly await the arrival of the hunter. At this moment the whole pack are liberated; the hunter grasps his lance, and, tumbling through the snow and ice, prepares for the encounter."

"If there be two hunters, the bear is killed easily; for one makes a feint of thrusting a spear at the right side, and as the animal turns with his arms toward the threatened attack, the left is unprotected and receives the death-wound."

"But if there be only one hunter, he does not hesitate. Grasping the lance firmly in his hands, he provokes the animal to pursue him by moving rapidly across its path, and then running as it to escape. But hardly is its long unwieldy body extended for the solitary chase, before with a rapid jump the hunter doubles on his track and runs back toward his first position. The bear is in the act of turning after him again when the lance is plunged into the left side below the shoulder. So dexterously has this thrust to be made, that an unpractised hunter has often to leave his spear in the side of his prey and run for his life. But even then, if well aided by the dogs, a cool, skilful man seldom fails to kill his adversary."

"Many wonders are revealed by the Etah Bay Esquimaux in these encounters: the bear is looked upon as more fierce in that neighbourhood, and about Anaktok and Kenna Bay, than around the broken ice to the south. He uses his teeth much more generally than is supposed by systematic writers."

Dr. Kane's farewell to his brig, when obliged to abandon her, after she had been laid up for two winters, and torn to pieces to afford fuel, is positively affecting:—

"Our last farewell to the brig was made with more solemnity. The entire ship's company was collected in our dismantled winter-chamber to take part in the ceremonial. It was Sunday. Our moss walls had been torn down, and the wood that supported them burned. Our beds were off at the boats. The galleys were unfurnished and cold. Every thing about the little den of refuge was desolate."

"We read prayers and a chapter of the Bible; and then, all standing silently round, I took Sir John Franklin's portrait from its frame and eased it in an Indian-rubber scroll. I next read the reports of inspection and survey which had been made by the several commissions organised for the purpose, all of them testifying to the necessities under which I was about to act. I then addressed the party: I did not affect to disguise the difficulties that were before us; but I assured them that they could all be overcome by energy and subordination to command; and that the thirteen hundred miles of ice and water that lay between us and North Greenland could be traversed with safety for most of us, and hope for all. I added, that as men and messmates it was the duty of us all, enjoined by gallantry as well as religion, to postpone every consideration of self to the protection of the wounded and sick; and that this must be regarded by every man and under all circumstances as a paramount order. In conclusion I told them to think over the trials we had all of us gone through, and to remember each man for himself, how often an unseen Power had rescued him in peril, and I admonished them still to place reliance upon Him who could not change. I was met with a right spirit."

When Dr. Kane and his companions had accomplished their perilous march over a distance of thirteen hundred miles, and reached the Danish settlements of Greenland in safety, their reception on board of an American squadron which had been despatched to their rescue, was an event which naturally inspired them with gratitude to Providence.

"We were upon the eve of setting out, however, when the look-out man at the hill-top announced a steamer in the distance. It drew near, with a barque in tow, and we soon recognised the stars and stripes of our own country. The faith was lowered for the last time into the water, and the lit le flag which had floated so near the poles of both hemispheres opened once more to the breeze. With Brooks at the tiller, and Mr. Olrik at my side, followed by all the boats of the settlement, we went out to meet them."

"Not even after the death of the usk did our men lay to their oars more heartily. We neared the squadron and the gallant men that had come out to seek us; we could see the scars which their own ice-batches had impressed on the vessels; we knew the good face of the officers' cap-bands, and discerned the gorges who, glass in hand, were evidently regarding us."

"Presently we were alongside. An officer, whom I shall ever remember as a cherished friend, Captain Hartstene, hailed a little man in a ragged flannel shirt. 'Is that Dr. Kane?' and with the 'Yes!' that followed the rigging was manned by our countrymen, and cheers welcomed us back to the social world of love which they represented."

From the extracts we have given, our readers will be aware that the portion of Dr. Kane's work which relates to personal adventure and experiences, will be warmly admired by such as read for amusement. But to those who concern themselves with weightier matters, the important discoveries he has made, will be in the highest degree instructive. These, as we have hinted, are of no ordinary value, and consist of an elongation of Smith Sound to a higher northern latitude than that of any other known land in the Arctic regions, and to a higher parallel than had ever been reached by any navigator, except Parry; and of the existence of a vast ocean beyond, apparently free from ice, with which it communicates.

In relating his adventures, and developing his discoveries, Dr. Kane has written with the taste and judgment of a gentleman, and the modest pride so becoming in a man who has done his duty. The charm of his work is increased by hundreds of beautiful illustrations, after his own drawings. Aided by these we have been enabled fully to sympathise with Dr. Kane in the scenes of Arctic life. We have gone through his volumes with real admiration, and have no doubt they will be in high favour with all who, perusing them, can appreciate patient endurance under fearful trials, and ardent zeal in the execution of duties in circumstances under which most men would inevitably sink. We congratulate Dr. Kane on having associated his name honourably and indissolubly with Arctic travel, and on having made discoveries which entitle him to the gratitude of the civilised world.

THE COURT OF FRANCE AT COMPIEGNE.

WHILE the aspect of affairs in Paris is such as to cause the utmost uneasiness among the wise and prudent, the Emperor Napoleon and the courtiers of the Tuileries—just the sort of people to "daff the world aside and let it pass"—are enjoying themselves, without stint, at Compiègne. The sayings and doings at that provincial palace are so interesting in many points of view, as to justify us in recording them for the amusement of our readers.

The Emperor, with the Empress and the Prince Imperial, reached Compiègne on the 19th ult. A detachment of thirty Cent Gardes, commanded by a captain, was in attendance at the station to escort their Majesties, who proceeded to the palace in an open carriage and four, the young Prince following in another with his nurse and gouvernante. Since that date the imperial family have been objects of the greatest enthusiasm to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood; and guests have been continually arriving and departing.

The visitors on arrival are conducted to their apartments by the Chamberlains, and after having changed their travelling costume, are presented to the Emperor and Empress. The dress of the gentleman is a frock-coat in the morning, and a dress-coat and white neckcloth in the evening. Those who take part in the hunting wear a green cloth coat in the morning, one of green velvet in the evening, with silk stockings coming over the knee, as in the time of Louis XIV. The ladies also have two different official toilettes each day; and, as a matter of course, never appear twice in the same dress. At Compiègne each guest has only one room; each lady is permitted to keep a femme-de-chambre with her; all the other servants are placed together. The guests who ride on horseback bring their own horses with them. The Emperor and Empress reserve to themselves, between the reception of each series of visitors, a day or two of privacy and repose.

We learn that it is considered a grave matter in the world of fashion to be or not to be invited to the *fêtes* at Compiègne. The number of the elect is very limited. The fortunate ones are divided into three series, each composed of about forty persons, exclusive, of course, of persons in attendance. Four persons—MM. Fould and Vaillant; the two Ministers of State, Lord Cowley and Lord Hertford, an old friend of the Emperor's, and known to him at the time of his residence in England, are privileged to remain at Compiègne during the whole of the Emperor's stay. The other invitations are for six or eight days.

These country re-unions have many attractions, and things pass very differently from what is supposed. The Emperor, described as being English in his tastes, allows his guests to spend their time as they like until the hour for dinner. All the guests can have tea or coffee (what we call breakfast) in their rooms as early as they please. The Emperor rises very early, and generally transacts business with a minister of state, or walks about with Lord Cowley till eleven. At that time, he and the Empress preside at what is called a *déjeuner*, but what is in reality a kind of luncheon, from which etiquette, ceremony, and formality are banished. The hunting and shooting is rather a poor imitation of what those words are understood to designate in England; but the sight of the Empress, and some very charming members of her suite, galloping across the old forest, in those delightful round hats which have been imported from England, makes some amends for the unsportsmanlike character of the veneer. The horsemanship of some of the guests also affords amusement, and suggests curious reflections as to the fate of many of the riders were they following a pack of fox-hounds. The forest, however, is delightful for timid equestrians, as it is almost as level as a race-course, and there are no leaps worth mentioning.

The dinner at Compiègne is rather formal; but in the evening etiquette is again put aside—dancing, playing charades, cards, music, acting proverbs, and other fashionable distractions, bring the day very pleasantly to a close.

Even theatricals have not been quite neglected at Compiègne, and one day recently, performers brought from Paris did their utmost to amuse the inmates of the palace. At half-past eight o'clock, the Emperor and Empress entered the theatre, already occupied by the persons invited. The orchestra was reserved for superior officers, all in grand uniform. In the boxes at the sides were seated ladies in magnificent toilettes. The centre boxes were set apart for the Court. The Emperor was in black, and wearing the grand cordon of the Legion of Honour; the Empress wore a white dress, with a cloak of crimson velvet. On entering they were received with the loudest acclamations. All the seats behind and near them were filled with the Imperial households, the Ministers, and grand dignitaries of the Court. As soon as their Majesties had taken their seats, the curtain rose for the representation of "Quand l'Amour s'en va," the performers being Mesdames Guillemin, Saint-Marc, and Bodin, with Félix and Parade. When the curtain fell, the Emperor gave the signal for applause. The Imperial party then withdrew for half an hour to take refreshments, and on their return the curtain again rose for "Le Mari de la Dame de Chœurs." Arnal, who had joined the performers of the Vaudeville theatre, was exceedingly amusing. Madame Guillemin also, in the mother of the *dansseuse*, was excellent; and in one passage in the first act threw the whole house into the greatest hilarity. The Empress, in particular, laughed most heartily, particularly when the mother of the *dansseuse* exclaims, "Ah! if Napoleon had only listened to my advice!" "You were acquainted with the Emperor?" "No, but I could have known him, for he saw me at Berlin, when I played Eucharis in 'Télémaque.' He even remarked me and sent to compliment me by M. Cardet." Their Majesties were highly pleased, and of course so were the Court and the persons invited.

When the Emperor went to Compiègne, it was arranged that there should be three stag hunts, three theatrical representations, and three days' shooting, equally divided amongst the three assemblages of guests who have had the honour of being invited. Our engraving represents the Empress as she appeared on one of the three devoted to pheasant-shooting. The Empress is attired in an elegant costume of green cloth, with gold buttons, and a round hat and feather; two sub-officers of the Chasseurs of the Guard attend to carry her fowling-pieces; and altogether she looks a most charming huntress.

THE CURÉE BY TORCHLIGHT AT COMPIEGNE.

More ceremonious a great deal—and somewhat more barbarous, we must add—than any enacted at our exciting fox hunts, is the torchlight scene represented by an engraving on another page. The "curée," which was recently witnessed in the courtyard of Compiègne, during the visit of the Emperor Napoleon and his court to that château, is of high importance at the close of one of those stag hunts which take place in France.

The ceremony is performed in the most formal manner. When the feet of the stag are cut off, and presented to the person in honour of whom the chase has been held, the animal is carried, with all due formalities, underneath the windows of the château, and those who have been privileged to take part in the hunt form themselves into a circle on horseback. A blast having been blown by the huntsman, and the stag cut up, and the entrails taken out, the huntsman or one of his assistants sits astride of the carcass, concealing the flesh strewn underneath, while he shakes the antlered head to exasperate the dogs. The latter, after being forcibly kept off, are allowed to rush in, but only to be driven back yelping with pain. At length when a signal is given by the person in whose honour the chase has taken place, they are allowed to rush upon their prey, and at this critical moment the man holding the head carries it hastily off, and discovers the curée to the howling dogs.

Then the scene becomes terrific; exasperated by suspense and frequent application of the whip, the hounds grow furious, and the spectacle is one of almost savage aspect.

FRENCH DIPLOMATISTS AND THE CZAR.—The "Observer" contains the following significant piece of intelligence, dated St. Petersburg, Nov. 1:—"Count Walewski, the French Foreign Minister, a Pole, is to have the Polish estates of his family restored to him again for his services to the Czar in the late war."

THE SUEZ CANAL.—The "Journal de Constantinople" recognises the utility of the cutting through the isthmus of Suez, but declares that the Porte suspects its decision in consequence of the diplomatic differences which have arisen, and of the necessity of limiting the importance of Egypt, which already has become too great. General Chesney is making a survey for purposes connected with the Euphrates Railway scheme in Mesopotamia.



THE EMPRESS EUGENIE: PHEASANT SHOOTING AT COMPIÈGNE.

DR. KANE'S ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

A NARRATIVE of the second expedition undertaken by the Americans in search of Sir John Franklin, which has just appeared from the pen of Dr. Kane, and the recent presence of that distinguished discoverer in England, invite our attention to the bold enterprise of which he was the hero. Indeed, it appears that the Arctic expeditions have not yet ceased to form a conspicuous feature in the annual address at the Geological Society. Lord Ellesmere last year announced the return of Dr. Rae, with the evidence of the fate of the long-missing expedition under Franklin. This year Admiral Beechey reported the results of the expedition consequent upon the information brought by Dr. Rae. And scarcely had the excitement of his sad story passed away, when the announcement of Dr. Kane's return completed the page of past adventure in search of the lost explorers. Some time about the year 1822 Dr. Kane was born at Philadelphia

terior of this great volcano. He was lowered more than a hundred feet by a bamboo rope from an overhanging cliff, and, clambering down some seven hundred feet through the scoria, was dragged up senseless with the interesting specimens which he had collected, including bottles of sulphurous acid from the mouth of the crater.

Having thus signalled his spirit of enterprise, Dr. Kane traversed India, spending a considerable time among the monolithic structures of Arungabad; and visited Ceylon, the Upper Nile, the Oases of Jupiter Ammon, &c., and various regions which have since become the trodden ground of European tourists. A portion of this travel introduced him to the learned Lepsius who was then prosecuting his researches in Egypt. Unfortunately, while returning, he lost his dakeah in a quicksand above ESioot, and with it the entire papers and journals of years of extraordinary adventure.

the lines of military operations; and after his brilliant achievement of carrying President Polk's despatches to General Scott, he was still necessarily trammelled by the movements of the American forces. His barometrical altitudes of Popocatepetl, however, are of value.

When the Mexican affair was settled, and peace restored, Dr. Kane, appointed to the coast survey, under Professor Bache, was at work in the Gulf of Mexico, when the liberality of Mr. Grinnell stimulated the Government of the United States to the first American expedition in search of Sir John Franklin. Dr. Kane immediately volunteered his services, and was accepted as the senior surgeon of the squadron. His "personal narrative" of this cruise was published in 1852. Before this work was completed for the press, Dr. Kane had effected his arrangements for the Arctic expedition, appropriating to this cherished object his own pecuniary resources, as well as drawing largely on those of Mr. Grinnell, Mr. Pea-



DR. KANE AND THE COMPANIONS OF HIS ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY BRADY, OF NEW YORK.)

and of the thirty-four years that have since elapsed, he has spent more than twenty in visiting regions remote from the place of his birth.

After being educated at the Universities of Virginia and Pennsylvania, and graduating as a doctor of medicine in 1843, Kane was appointed upon the diplomatic staff as surgeon to the first American embassy to China. He availed himself of his position and his pedestrian powers to explore the Philippines, including Camarines and Mindora, and accomplished his object; but an associate during a portion of this exploration, the young Baron Loë of Prussia, sank under the effects of the hardship and exposure, and died in Java. Dr. Kane devoted much attention to the volcanic region of Albaif, expecting to connect his observations with subsequent travels in Sombava. His sojourn among the Negritos and Arafuras was one of romantic interest, and he was the first who descended the crater of the Zall. On the occasion he effected a topographical sketch of the in-

Profoundly interested in the working of the slave trade, Kane sailed for the coast of Africa, visited the slave factories from Cape Mount to the River Bonny, and had free access to the baracoons of Dahomey through the influence of the infamous Da Souza. An excursion which he planned to Aborney, favoured by the Portuguese, failed through a severe attack of the coast fever, from the effects of which Dr. Kane's constitution is said to have never entirely recovered.

We need not narrate at length Dr. Kane's adventures in Mexico, which form part of the history of American conquest. His wounds on the field of Nopalea, which were very serious in their way, opened to him the hospitalities of his prisoner, Major-General Gaona (the defender of St. Juan de Ulloa against the French), and secured him the gratitude of other Mexican citizens of the highest distinction. We believe that the travels of Dr. Kane through the Republic of the Cactus carried him little outside

body, and several of the scientific institutions of the United States. It is a scene which occurred in the course of the expedition that the accompanying engraving represents. The centre figure is that of Dr. Kane.

When the second expedition was decided on, and arrangements made, Dr. Kane sailed from New York on the 3rd of May, 1843, in the *Advance*, of which the entire force consisted of eighteen men—ten from the United States navy and eight volunteers. The vessel's equipment was simple. Her store of provisions was chosen with little regard to luxury; and she was under private regulations, among which were absolute subordination to the officer in command, abstinence from all intoxicating drinks, and an entire disuse of profane language. Though Dr. Kane does not profess to be a sailor in the naval acceptance of the term, it would appear that he very well knew what he was about.

The voyage to Newfoundland and along the coast of Greenland

pied about sixty days, and was attended by no event of special importance; and twenty days were spent by the navigators in one continued battle with the elements in Smith's Straits. At length, on the 23rd of August, they had the satisfaction of determining their latitude, and of finding it to be 78 deg. 41 min., which was nearer the North pole than any of their predecessors had ever been, excepting Parry on his Spitzbergen foot-tramp.

The slow progress of the expedition up to this point, and the rapid advance of winter, led the crew to desire that further exploration should be postponed until next spring; but the commander remonstrated, and his followers, convinced by his reasoning, zealously re-entered upon their cheerless duty. The "warping," the "blasting," and the "tracking" continued, in the tools of which the commander participated with his men, until the 10th of September, when they found themselves blocked up in a bay, which they named *Reusselær Harbour*. There the adventurers spent two winters.

They had discovered, however, upon the northern shore of Greenland, which they were coasting, a series of lofty rock-clad hills, and a range of cliffs of tabular magnesian limestone, and the mouth of a large river, upon which they might speculate to any extent during their long imprisonment. Little did they imagine when they laid their little vessel in that far-off harbour, where there were seven-fathom soundings and a perfect shelter from the outside ice, that, after making her their principal dwelling for twenty-one months, they would finally be compelled to abandon her, perform a journey to the Danish settlements of Greenland, and be there received on board of an American vessel which had been despatched to their rescue. Such a series of disappointments as this band of explorers met with were enough, it would seem, to dishearten the most heroic; but the courage of Dr. Kane and his friends did not desert them.

When the summer of 1854 arrived, and the voyagers discovered that the ice under their vessel was no less than nine feet thick, and their *voyage* consequently at an end, they took to their boats and sledges, made four extensive journeys in different directions in the hope of finding the Franklin party, and in the aggregate travelled more than three thousand miles, fourteen hundred of which were accomplished by the Commander with a single team of Esquimaux and Newfoundland dogs; and most important scientific discoveries were the result of these journeys.

The march of Dr. Kane and his friends to the Danish settlements of Greenland, a distance of thirteen hundred miles, lay over a pathless region of ice and snow and stormy waters, and was safely accomplished in eighty-four days. A heartfelt prayer of thanksgiving was then offered up to a kind Providence by the adventurers from under the humble roof of a Moravian missionary on the coast of Greenland.

The discovery of a polar sea was the crowning event of this Arctic expedition. That, next to the finding of Sir John Franklin, was the leading object of all the recent English expeditions; and Dr. Kane was animated by a similar hope. He was successful. Unsubdued by the horrors of sunless winters, of the biting cold, and the dangers of starvation, he forced his way beyond the boundaries of human existence, crossed a belt that might well be termed the Land of Utter Desolation—where no living creature was seen—and, on reaching the margin of an ocean, he was welcomed by a warmer breeze than he had lately known, and by the unexpected appearance of birds and quadrupeds; and had, in reality, discovered a new world. He proved himself to be a man of rare pioneering ability and of astonishing fortitude, and in returning home, after performing one of the greatest exploits of the present century, he overcame a series of difficulties in travelling which would seem to be too wonderful even for the pen of romance. In the meantime his countrymen became anxious for his safety, and an expedition, commanded by Lieut. H. G. Hartstene, was despatched to his rescue, and he, who departed for the North as a commander, returned to his country in the simple capacity of a passenger. He reported himself to the Government, and was complimented, and in the eyes of the public has since been assigned a position among the distinguished navigators and discoverers of the world.

The services of Dr. Kane in this generous mission, and the discoveries to which it led, have gained for him the award of the Geological Society's Gold Medal for the past year.

The chivalrous and disinterested object of Dr. Kane's recent voyage to England was to place his services at the disposal of Lady Franklin, in pursuance of the generous offer he had some time since made to her, to command a private Arctic expedition, should our Government not send to complete the search. We regret to add—and it is a painful task—that exposure and exertion during his Arctic voyage have seriously affected Dr. Kane's health.

THE TOTNES DIAMOND.—Mr. Bastow Taylor, of Totnes, possesses what he deemed to be an ordinary pebble until a few weeks ago, when his attention was more minutely drawn to it, from the fact that a piece clipped from the principal lump was found to readily cut through a piece of glass. Upon this Mr. Taylor submitted the original piece of stone to a lapidary, who, we are informed, has pronounced the stone to be a blue diamond, and worth more than £50,000.

CHOLERA NEAR EDINBURGH.—We are sorry to announce that there has been an outbreak of disease in this neighbourhood, having very decidedly the character of Asiatic cholera.

MR. ADDERLEY, M.P., ON CAPE POLITICS.—Mr. Adderley writes as follows:—"England has already suffered enough and inflicted suffering enough on Africa, as she formerly did on America, by assuming the task of border defence of colonies against bush natives with aids of regular troops. Whether her motive be humanity or patronage, it is alike mistaken, as leaving her to supersede the only effective methods of self-defence; and weary long has been the series of experiments by which she has dearly bought this recurrent lesson, seemingly still in vain. The proposed German Legion settlement seems to me a gigantic folly, for which the Government will have to answer as they best can as soon as Parliament has met. We now hear of more troops also to be sent to South Africa, to feed the hungry contractors for an English Commissariat, to check the rising spirit of self-defence, to pander to the private ambition and fancies of those colonial headquarters which we already supply with an annual subsidy of £40,000, and to incur the delicate question of reimbursement, which lost America to us, and to which Africa has never yet sent any better answer than—I wish you may get it."

MISERABLE HOAX.—A letter from Naples of the 23rd ult. most incredibly states that the King of the Two Sicilies has ordered prison labour to be so regulated as to ensure to the prisoners a certain profit. A savings' bank, says the writer, is also to be established for the convenience of the prisoners.

PROTESTANTISM IN TURKEY.—Colonel Sir H. Rawlinson observed, the other day, at a meeting in Exeter Hall, that twenty years ago Protestantism was unknown in Turkey. On one occasion a Jew presented himself to the resident at Bagdad, and claimed British protection, alleging that he had come from Jerusalem. He was informed by the Consul-General that according to international law he was not entitled to protection. He then said that he was a Protestant, and was informed that, if such were the fact, it could not constitute a title to the protection he sought. The Consul-General, however, wishing to know what the man's idea of Protestantism was, interrogated him on the doctrines of his adopted faith, and he replied—"I eat pork, I drink wine, and I do not believe in God." This was the correct idea of Protestantism in Turkey at that time.

EARTHQUAKE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—A shock of an earthquake was distinctly felt in and around Adelaide at about a quarter past two o'clock on Wednesday morning, the 25th of June. It was accompanied by a loud rumbling sound, which lasted for several seconds, and gave the idea of thunder underground. It was naturally felt more in lofty houses, in some of the upper rooms of which the furniture was perceptibly shaken. From the numerous letters published in the Adelaide papers, from persons resident in town and the suburban districts, the shock seems to have extended over a wide range.

THE NORTHERN RAILWAY FRAUDS.—Charles Carpenter, the cashier of the Northern Railway Company, and the last of the fugitives from justice in connection with the late frauds, has been captured by some United States officers in Orange county, at which place he had engaged himself as a farm labourer. Not any property of value was found in possession of the prisoner. He said he arrived in America very poor, and had scarcely money enough to pay the expenses of a journey to Europe. A few days after, some officers, guided by the information imparted in the annexed anonymous note (sent to one of the parties concerned), discovered a box containing an amount of property stolen from the railway company—"In the second story of tenement house, No. 197, West Sixteenth Street, front room, lives Frederick Couvet, house carpenter. In the sub-cellar of said house, where fuel is kept, and which is divided into wood-rooms, to accommodate four or five families who live there—in the wood house appertaining to said Couvet there has recently been received two tons of coal. The coal must be removed. Under the coal is three inches of sawdust or stone, whatever the cellar is paved with, is a small wooden box, of about a foot square, enclosing a tin box, which is soldered, containing the valuables." The box was found in the place described in the note, and contained a considerable amount of the embezzled property. All the men connected with the great frauds on the French railroad are now in custody.

* * PARTIES requiring back numbers of the "Illustrated Times" to complete sets, are informed that of the majority of these, the quantity on hand is becoming rapidly exhausted, and that it is not intended to incur the expense of reprinting them. Such numbers as may be required should therefore be at once ordered of the respective agents.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1856.

THE LORD MAYOR'S SHOW.

TAKE it all in all, we are inclined to believe that this annual spectacle is the most convincing of all proof that the English are naturally conservative. We are famous for holding on by forms and symbols above other peoples, but in no instance is it carried to such a length as in this procession. From this point of view it has a kind of philosophical interest,—which is lucky for it, as in every other point of view it is a consummate nuisance. The traffic of the metropolis is stopped by an exhibition—grotesque, barbarous, ugly, and laughable; and as we are a practical people, there ought to be some very strong grounds for keeping up such an interruption of our ordinary quiet ways of going about our business. What can those grounds be supposed to be?

First and foremost is the respectable antiquity of the affair. But this plea does not avail for other customs which are yearly dying out. We are paring away forms and ceremonies everywhere, and have been these hundreds of years. Lords Devon and Derby do not keep up the feudal state of the Courtenays and Stanleys of old. Why should the Lord Mayor? Our ancestors liked ceremonial, but it was a ceremonial that fitted everything else in their lives; and potentates were dignified in their manners, because they were dignified in their characters. The old mayors, who were barons, and kept the peace in the City, were very important governing men; and of this fact their outward display was a kind of symbol. But our modern mayor, though a respectable and useful kind of officer, scarcely represents the greatness of the City more than a beadle does that of the Church. He is the head of a clique of tradesmen. He is rarely—what every important man must be now—a man of intellectual cultivation. Why on earth should he go masquerading through the town in a Hudiabastic manner, burlesquing the feudal traditions? The populace laugh at the thing. It has no artistic merit, such as the shows of the Pope (now the first beadle in Europe) possess. On the contrary, it is as great a humbug from the picturesque as from the political point of view. No harmony is preserved—no unity—though, if such points were attended to, something might thus be done for the education and amusement of our hard-worked and materialised people. We are far from objecting to the custom only because it is ancient, or because it is a show; but because it brings ridicule on antiquity, and is a bad show. We laugh at the apery of feudalism which is seen in some French hunts; but then the "decorations" are elegant there, and the personages, whether they deserve power or not, are really powerful.

To be sure, there are other "shams" extant as well as this of the Lord Mayor's. When a man calls himself De Borgia instead of Buggins, and swaggers about the barons of England in a debate on Life Peerages—when a Yorkshire squireen family has got high titles, and depopulates a province to make a deer forest,—the spectacle is ridiculous as well as painful, of course; but it does not come home to the sight, and disturb the occupations of a great city and its inhabitants, like this present affair. Besides, we never admit it as an excuse for one nuisance that other nuisances exist. Let us go at the present one—the easiest one to demolish. We cannot check all tyrants, but let us subvert the tomfoolery of these November shows. Everything has its day, and by continuing a ceremony too long, you dishonour what it was intended to adorn,—just as a few years ago the beautiful old Godiva myth was profaned by a bit of low mummery. Would it not destroy our idea of the romantic beauty of a Greek funeral pyre, if somebody got together a lot of cypress and other timber, in Bethnal Green, and burned a dead alderman?

But our City folks might learn other lessons than mere lessons in taste from the annual protest against this annual absurdity. They might learn to put their Corporation in order altogether—to get to the work of the century—to put money matters right—to aid and cherish sanitary and social reforms. Centralisation is marching fast, and there is but one way of resisting it—making local and self-governing powers effective, vigorous, and modern. At present the City authorities make too much of their forms, and their feasts, and their shows, and the age is not likely to stand them, if they do not begin to show that they comprehend it.

NEW POEM BY TENNYSON.—Our readers will be interested in learning that the Laureate has a new volume nearly ready for the press. It will, we are informed, consist of two poems, both of considerable length, and in blank verse, and the subject of each drawn from that storehouse of Arthurian romance which has already afforded such rich material to his genius in the "Morte d'Arthur" and "The Lady of Shalott." The story of one is the Enchantment of Merlin, that of the other is derived from the romance of Eric or Geraint, published by Lady Charlotte Guest in her edition of the "Mabinogion."

THE SOULAGE COLLECTION.—Our contemporaries announce the arrival in England of the Soulage Collection—which is stated to be unique as an assemblage of "Italian Arts of all kinds—bronzes, pottery, furniture." The collection has been secured by a company of amateurs, whose intention is to offer it to the country at cost price; and, if such offer be declined, to bring the collection to auction, devoting such profits as might arise from the sale of it when broken up to the promotion of Art. In either case, however, it appears that the collection is to be exhibited entire among the Art-treasures at Manchester.

A NEW MEDICAL REFORM BILL.—The heads of all the medical corporations of England, Scotland, and Ireland have at last agreed upon the terms of a new Medical Reform Bill. The proposals for the bill are given at length in the "Medical Times and Gazette," and it is hoped that this difficult question may be at length settled to the satisfaction of the medical profession and the advantage of the public.

HARVEST HOME ON AN IMPROVED PRINCIPLE.—The Earl of Shaftesbury lately entertained some 350 of his tenantry at a "harvest home," as it is called, though the ceremonial was by no means in accordance with the usually received notions of this old English festival. We find that the deluded "peasantry" were assembled during the morning in the yard adjoining the mansion of St. Giles's, under the care of their respective employers (it being impossible for them to take care of themselves, we presume), and shortly afterwards proceeded to the church, headed by a band of music; and very refreshing for the peasantry must have looked—all of a row, of course, each "peasant" with his toes out, and his hands behind him. We are glad to hear, however, that the docile peasantry, returning from church, were rewarded with a dinner, provided beneath a spacious tent, gaily decorated for the occasion, each of the party being apportioned a supply of good old beer, sufficient to "cheer but not inebriate." The Earl of Shaftesbury presided at the head of the tables, and Lord Ashley took the post of carver at the other end. Among the interested spectators were Count Creptowitsch, the Russian Ambassador, and his countess; the Marquis of Azelegio; and other visitors and friends of the family. We should like to know what the Count Creptowitsch thought of the proceedings.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE LORD MAYOR has remitted a further sum of £1,000 to the relief of the sufferers by the French invasions. The total has now reached £50,000, or £34,000 sterling.

THE GREAT SUCCESS which attended the recent first attempt to introduce athletic sports and pastimes among the soldiers at Chislehurst barracks, has not lessened their reputation.

THE RESIGNATION OF THE BISHOP OF NORWICH is described by the newspapers, which add, that nothing has recently occurred which can have caused it to be so.

THOMAS RUSSELL, a comedian, died suddenly in the green-room of the theatre at Great Yarmouth, last week. It appeared that he had been overworked under circumstances, and had denied himself, to a great extent, the necessary life.

THE ENGINEERS' AND MASONIC ASSURANCE COMPANY, it is reported, has purchased the business of the Age Assurance. The proposed amalgamation of the Birkbeck and Age has, we hear, been abandoned by the former company.

A MORNING PAPER, in a recent notice, evidently intending to be complimentary to a washing company, whose works it was describing, says that the men not low dirty the work is, the company are prepared to do it.

THE VESTRY OF ST. PANCRAAS have retained Mr. D. D. Kane as attorney, in the probable legal contest about to take place, as to the right of the Law Board to interfere in the management of the affairs of the workhouse.

ACCOUNTS FROM SIAM state that the French Envoy has concluded a treaty with the Siam King. After leaving Siam, the French mission was to proceed to Tonkin, for the purpose of trying to open negotiations with the Cochinchina Government.

THE REGISTRATION FEES on registered letters passing through the post office, amount to a revenue of £25,000 a year.

THE REVENUE ACCOUNT OF THE INDIAN RAILWAY has been published, showing that the expenses of the line for the half-year have amounted to 10 per cent. on the receipts—a rate almost without precedent.

A SECTION OF THE West-end of London and Crystal Palace Railway was opened for traffic on Thursday. The line extends from the railway-station of Palace to Wandsworth Common—four miles and three-quarters in length, and passes under the Palace by a tunnel.

THE ONCE POPULAR LONDON MECHANICS' INSTITUTION, founded by the Dr. Birkbeck, has been in considerable straits since his death. It has now 363 members; at one time it had 1,300. It appeals to the public to aid in the increase of members.

THE TURKISH have got a new idol in place of Piccolomini—Signora Virginia Boccacade, of Modena, youngest daughter of the late celebrated vocalist. She has achieved a great triumph in "La Traviata," and might surrender to other noisy demonstrations are expected shortly to set in.

GENERAL SIR ALEXANDER WOODFORD, it is said, will be the new Lieutenant-Governor of Chelsea Hospital, General Sir Edward Bakeney, who was at that office, succeeding to the Governorship, vacant by the death of Sir John Halkett.

THE AMERICAN FRIGATE MERRIMAC has left Southampton for Brest, on a very cordial intercourse subsisted between the Americans and English during the stay of the frigate in Southampton Water.

IN THE PENITENTIARY, the deaths by cholera are reported to have been enormous. A YOUTH NAMED PARKER has been committed for trial at the next Assizes, on a charge of placing wooden rails across the North-Eastern line of railway, near a lane end between Howden and Clift.

THE NUMBER OF WRECKED reported during the month of October is 199; in the month of January the number was 265; in February, 174; in March, 119; in April, 157; in May, 112; in June, 84; in July, 104; in August, 88; and in September, 127; making a total in the past ten months of 1,455.

A GREAT NUMBER OF FOREIGN STUDENTS, among whom are some Russians, have arrived during the last few days in Paris, to follow the autumn and winter course of public lectures.

THE FACTORY GIRLS OF LOWELL have given expression to their feelings on the late Summer outrage, by sending to P. S. Brooks thirty pieces of shirtings, and a winding sheet, with a letter freely expressing their sentiments.

A BERLIN JOURNAL having published an improbable story relative to the discovery in a field of a box containing many millions of thalers, the satirical journal of the city, the "Kladderadatsch," says it is able to state that on examination of the money, the interest which has accrued since the day of the interment to the day of the discovery was also found.

A STRANGE AND FATAL ACCIDENT occurred on the evening of Friday night week to Mr. Wm. Tyler, an independent gentleman, residing in Liverpool. He fell headlong into his bath while in a state of apoplexy, and was scalded to death.

THE PRICE OF MEAT IS SO HIGH IN VIENNA that, on an average, 80 fewer oxen per week have been consumed this year than in preceding years.

BY AN ORDER OF THE COMMANDER OF THE FIRST MILITARY DIVISION OF BAVARIA soldiers of the Jewish faith are exempted from military service on Sabbath days and other Hebrew holidays.

A NEW OMNIBUS COMPANY has been started, offering those advantages of the old system which the French-English Company has certainly failed to introduce.

A GREAT DEAL OF BASE COIN, supposed to be of English manufacture, has been put in circulation lately at Tiflis and Teheran.

TWO SPARS OF KAURI PINE of the most extraordinary proportions ever brought to this country have been landed at Portsmouth, from New Zealand. They are 100 feet in length, and 34½ inches in diameter, without a knot! They will make masts for the Queen's state yacht.

EMIGRATION FROM FRANCE to Canada is on the increase.

THE CONSECRATION OF DR. TAIT to the bishopric of London will take place in the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, on the 23rd, it being contrary to etiquette for the bishop to appear at St. Paul's Cathedral before the time appointed for his enthronement.

ST. VINCENT, Cape de Verdes, has suffered terribly from cholera. Out of a population of 1,200, 800 persons had died, principally Malays. The bodies of the dead had to be burned in the public square, in the absence of the means to inter them.

WONDERFUL ACCOUNTS continue to be published concerning Colonel Jacob's rifle-shells—tested in India. One of them has shattered a very massive box filled with gunpowder, at a range of 1,800 yards.

MR. W. M. THACKERAY has undertaken to deliver a course of lectures at the Hull Literary Institution, in December. The subject will be "The Three Georges."

A MAN, NAMED COPPIN, was killed on Tuesday morning, at Mann's Brewery, Whitechapel, by an accidental fall through a trap-door.

A POSTAL CONVENTION has been concluded between Spain and Great Britain. The postage on letters between the two countries is to be sixpence, and must be prepaid in either case. The British postage alone on a letter by sea packet, or to from Spain, at present is 2s. 2d.

THE MORTALITY in the London Hospitals, according to the "Medical Times," has increased since the introduction of etherisation (or of chloroform) from twenty-one to thirty-four per cent; or, to vary the expression, instead of amputated being fatal in a less proportion than one in four of those operated upon, it now proves fatal to one in three.

THE AUSTRIAN NOBILITY exhibit great eagerness to have their sons educated by Jesuits; it is surmised that this arises from the fact that the Jesuits are not all-powerful in Austria, and the nobles expect that they will advance the interests of their pupils when they enter the world.

BARON PLANT has tendered his resignation as Baron of the Court of Exchequer. Mr. Watson, Q.C., will be his successor.

MISS LAMB, a cousin of the late Mr. Justice Talford, was hurrying to meet the train at Reading, when she dropped dead in the road.

A LUNATIC WOMAN, an inmate of Colney Hatch Asylum, contrived to get possession of a knife last week, with which she cut her throat in the most determined manner.

A MONUMENT IS TO BE ERECTED AT SHEFFIELD to the memory of those who fell in the Crimea. Miss Nightingale has subscribed £20 for this undertaking, which will be launched by a public meeting, called by the Mayor.

THE POLISH LEGION has now been generally disbanded.

M. PAUL DELAROCHE is seriously ill.

SIR WILLIAM WESTBROOK BURTON, puisne judge of the Supreme Court of Madras, is we understand, about to retire. The retiring pension is £1,300 a year. The salary of the puisne judgeship, £5,000 a year.

MR. ERNEST JONES held the second of his Political Soirées, at the St. Martin's Hall, on Friday evening. Mr. Jones delivered a discourse "On the future of the British Constitution," which he declared to be one of the vilest shams ever inflicted on a people.

GREAT DISTRESS PREVAILS AT ACAPULCO: corn is twelve times its usual price.

PILOTS ARE GREATLY WANTED IN THE SOLENT SEA. Both the multi-masted steamers *Euxine* and *Vera*, which lately arrived home, were brought through the Solent and up Southampton Water, without a pilot, in the dead of night.

In the early part of 1848, the "Church Union" movement was called into existence, by the appointment of Dr. Hampden to the see of Hereford. In this

movement the city of Bristol took the lead, and Mr. Denison became joint-secretary of the "Church Union" established there. Of all the proceedings which took place in the back-room of Mr. Ridley's shop in High Street, Mr. Denison was the soul and the life. It was there that he first organised a systematic opposition to the Government plan of appointing bishops to the Government scheme of education, and to the decision of the Committee of her Majesty's Privy Council as the ultimate court of appeal in the great Gorham case. And when the Gorham decision was given, we believe that Mr. Denison, in strict accordance with his principles, read aloud in his church at East Brent a protest against it, and denounced it as in the highest degree heretical and abominable. It is well-known that the Episcopal Bench never looked with more than a cold and chilling approval on the doings of those churchmen who started on their mad crusade for magnifying the office and authority of Bishops, and exalting them into the successors of St. Paul and St. Peter. But Dr. Bagot was less of a trimmer and a time-server than any of his Right Reverend brethren, and accordingly he not only denounced the Gorham decision himself, but in the following year he advanced the archagitor, his chaplain, to the archdeaconry of Taunton. Time would fail us were we to tell the tale of the many battles which the Archdeacon has fought during the last eight years against the spread of Low Church and Evangelical doctrines, and against the intrusion of the secular element into the control of parochial education, under the sanction of the Privy Council and its Secretary, Sir J. Kay-Shuttleworth. The annual meetings of the National Society will recount these exploits for the curious inquirer, and we have no desire to revisit the battle-fields on which so much of (ill) blood has been spilled (theologically). It is enough to add that his friends in 1850 wrote thus of him in anticipation of his victory over the heretical layman:—

"Who killed Kay-Shuttleworth
Not turtle and venom.
Who killed Kay-Shuttleworth?
I, George Anthony Denison!"

and that his brother, the Bishop, in playful mood declared that he knew no better name for him than "George without the Dragon." The rest of the Archdeacon's story is too fresh in our readers' memory to need detailing here. Not far from East Brent is South Brent, and the rector of South Brent is the Reverend Joseph Ditcher, who is enthusiastic in the cause of Evangelical truth. This gentleman was not content with the Gorham decision, which left each party in the Church at full liberty to teach "high" or "low" doctrines, as he pleased. Archdeacon Denison preached last year some sermons in Wells Cathedral, in which he stated that *our Lord's body and*



THE VENERABLE AND REVEREND G. A. DENISON, ARCHDEACON OF TAUNTON.

blood were received by the people well, but by the latter Mr. Ditcher thereupon "delayed" the Bishop, Lord Auckland; and when he declined to interfere in the matter, he before his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury issued a commission of Obedience reported that there was a *par* of the Archdeacon; and a formal court of law had been held, the Archdeacon lost his preferments in the Established Church amount to about £2,000 a-year. The Archdeacon has of course appealed against the sentence; and, curiously enough, he now most sacred of all doctrines, to the jurisdiction whose jurisdiction in spiritual matters tested so loudly some six years ago.

Archdeacon Denison is a man of great ability and perseverance—has a cultivated and independent standing, and is naturally fond of dogmatism; laid down with an accuracy and precision which is impossible to find in the English Church, for the reason that those who framed its Prayer-book agreed in rejecting the authority of Rome as agreed as to details, and intentionally left its elements vague and undetermined, in order to head as many individuals as possible in an establishment. It has been his misfortune many years to have been publicly engaged in religious controversies of the most various kind. On the Hampden case, on the Gorham case, on the Supremacy question, on the question—on one and all of these it has been the Archdeacon's misfortune to have had his name before the world in the newspapers, and now the unpopular side. On one occasion, if we are right, he commenced a letter to the "Guardian" these words:—"Sir,—Either the Archbishop of Canterbury is a heretic, or I am a heretic;" to which Lucas replied in the "Tablet" that "there was an alternative," and that "they were both heretics." On another occasion, we find Mr. Denison publishing a pamphlet, which would have been very popular five-and-twenty years ago, in which he advocated the removal of the Bishops from the House of Lords, this though he was the brother of a Bishop. He is a hot-headed, keen and logical, restless man. Mr. Denison must long have found himself alone in a position in which there is so much a spirit of forbearance and acquiescence in statements, not to say of compromise, as a well-endowed archdeaconry. Still he was open to a fault, and he has suffered for the loss of an honest man is always to be deplored.

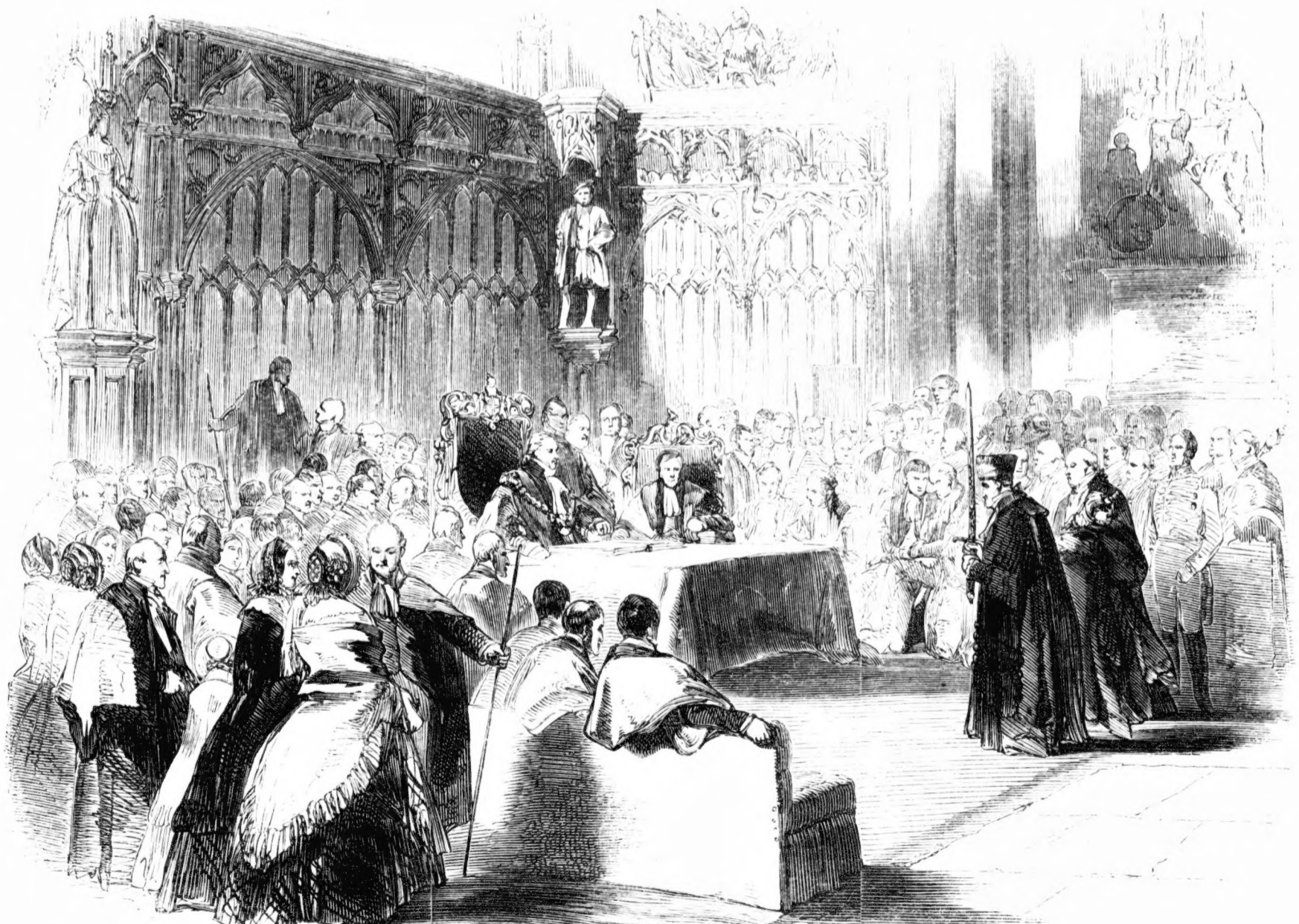
In 1838 Mr. Denison married the eldest daughter of the Right Hon. Joseph Warner Henley, M.P. for Oxfordshire, by whom he has a youthful family.



THE CUREE BY TORCHLIGHT IN THE COURTYARD OF THE CHATEAU OF COMPIEGNE.—(SEE PAGE 311.)



THOMAS Q. FINNIS, THE NEW LORD MAYOR.



THE CEREMONY OF SWEARING-IN A NEW LORD MAYOR AT THE GUILDHALL.

The wisdom of our Lord Mayor like the brightness of an expiring dip, blazes up only the more brilliantly for its approaching extinction. On Saturday his Lordship was waited on by a Mr. W. J. O'Connell, who, in an elegant speech, laid a complaint against the boys for carrying effigies insulting to Roman Catholics, (such as that of a Bishop with a gilt cross on his back,) through the streets on Guy Fawkes's day. Mr. O'Connell's request to abate this nuisance in deference to the feelings of a large section of our fellow subjects was reasonable enough. The Lord Mayor in return delivered a valuable archaeological lecture on the custom, which it appears, by his authority, arose in the time of James I., when, as the delighted audience were informed, "party feeling ran high" between the Catholics and Protestants. We were further informed that the Powder Plot had "always been held by historians to be a Roman Catholic conspiracy." However, he finally appealed to the boys to exhibit Guy Fawkes in a less adulterated form for the future. The fact is, the boys have nothing to do with the shows complained of. The real demonstrations are the work of the postmergioner tribe, who are not renowned on ordinary occasions for ultra Protestant, or any other religious views. However, on Monday, a Mr. Clark attended the Lord Mayor to justify past proceedings on behalf of the ragamuffin interest, and as his remarks were adverse to the Roman Catholics, the effect of this little affair was, as might have been anticipated, to attract public attention and make matters worse.

South West: 101, Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln: 2.

best fashion, in a plain plate, elegantly engraved, and the superfluous parts printed, for 4s. 6s.—At Henry Rodrigues', 21, Piccadilly.

